









# London Marathon organisers win £1m libel award



Chris Brasher, left, and John Disley celebrate their victory

**By KATHRYN KNIGHT**

THE organisers of the London Marathon accepted a £1 million libel payment yesterday from Channel 4 and *New Statesman and Society* magazine over allegations that they used the event to enrich themselves.

Chris Brasher and John Disley, both former Olympic runners who set up the marathon in 1981, said after the settlement was announced in the High Court that they had been "totally vindicated" by the four-year libel action and denounced their "trial by television".

They are to be awarded joint damages in excess of £380,000, believed to be the most awarded against a television company. The rest of the award will cover costs.

After the hearing, Mr Brasher criticised Michael Grade, the head of Channel 4, for wasting public money by "succumbing to the great

British disease of knocking people". Allegations that the marathon organisers had profited from the success of what is now Britain's largest athletic participation event first appeared in *New Statesman and Society* in July 1990 in an article by Duncan Campbell. This was followed by Channel 4's *Dispatches* programme in March 1991, presented by Mr Campbell, who has completed the marathon three times.

The programme's report was submitted to the Inland Revenue, the fraud squad and the Charities Commission, which started an investigation into the sportsmen's financial affairs and found no evidence of financial mismanagement.

At the High Court yesterday, George Carman, QC, told Mr Justice Waller that Mr Brasher and Mr Disley were men of distinction who had shown a great commitment to sport over their lifetime.

Michael Skrein, for Channel 4, and Geoffrey Bindman, solicitor for *New Statesman and Society*, said they now accepted that the programme and article contained allegations that were wrong. Channel 4 is to broadcast an unreserved apology after tonight's *Dispatches*.

Mr Brasher said afterwards the hearing that he had been "assassinated" by the *Dispatches* programme, which he watched with his wife on the night of its broadcast. "We had been tried on TV and found guilty," he said.

He condemned Michael Grade for burdening government departments with unnecessary work. "There was no substance in any of their allegations. They have caused public money to be spent unnecessarily. Four years ago they assured the court that they could justify all their charges - now they acknowledge that they cannot do so."

He said that he did not expect a personal apology from Michael Grade but hoped that in future Mr Grade may "contribute some money towards great sporting occasions rather than succumbing to the great British disease of knocking people".

Mr Disley said that their years as sportsmen had helped them over what had been a stressful four years. "We have suffered the stings and arrows of outrageous fortune of competitive sport, which I think made us resilient." They will continue to help to organise the marathon, which has attracted more than 300,000 participants over 15 years and raised £60 million for charity. Mr Brasher said: "The runners... now know that it is not only the best marathon in the world but that it is also run fairly and honestly."

Channel 4 declined to comment on the libel action. Stephen Platt, editor of *New Statesman and Society*, said that the magazine managers had been prepared for the result. "We had budgeted for the settlement and so we are not faced with imminent financial crises."

Duncan Campbell, who was not in court to hear the settlement, said that it had been dictated by a group of Lloyd's libel insurance brokers. "The insurers were not interested in the issues of the case or with Channel 4's reputation or editorial integrity. They instructed the lawyers not to prepare to defend the case, and they hoped to spend as little as possible," he said.

"It has always been my whole-hearted view that the London Marathon is an excellent event, and I hope to run it again. I am happy to hear that Chris Brasher was drinking champagne. The libel insurers should be drinking vinegar."

## Children in care exploited

# Council's PC bias 'helped pimps and paedophiles'

**By IAN MURRAY, COMMUNITY CORRESPONDENT**

A LEFT-WING council's politically correct policies in favour of gays, women and ethnic minorities helped paedophiles, pimps, drug dealers and child pornographers to exploit children in care, according to a report yesterday.

Islington Borough Council's failed policies mean that some of those responsible for the scandal are still working in the department register are slim.

The report suggests that the Home Office should pool police and social service information about suspects in children's homes, education and the youth service.

The independent report, commissioned by Islington into its own childcare department, found that between 1982 and 1992 allegations of criminal behaviour and misconduct by staff were not thoroughly examined, because "managers believed they would not be supported if they triggered disciplinary investigations involving staff from ethnic minorities or the gay community."

There is a fair chance that in other areas of the country there are timebombs like this ticking away," he said. "A laudable policy, implemented

badly, results in the seeds of doom being sown."

Islington has now recommended that all other authorities employing its former staff check their history with the Department of Health. The report emphasises, however, that only a small number of paedophiles are ever convicted, so the chances of their names appearing on the department register are slim.

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Paul Ince and his wife Clare arriving for the trial in Croydon yesterday

# Fan's convictions listed at trial of England footballer

**By RICHARD DUCE**

THE football fan who claims he was hit by the Manchester United and England player Paul Ince has convictions for soccer violence dating back 25 years, a court heard yesterday.

Ince, the 27-year-old midfielder, is alleged to have punched Dennis Warren on the nose moments after the incident in which his United colleague Eric Cantona kicked another spectator at the Crystal Palace ground in south London during a match in January.

Under cross-examination at Croydon Magistrates' Court by Henri Brandman, defending Ince, it emerged that Mr Warren, 48, a dustman, had three times been fined after incidents at football grounds. Mr Warren was also banned for three months by the Surrey Football Association for making abusive remarks from the touchline during a game.

Jeffery McCann, for the prosecution, claims that after Cantona's flying kick on January 25, Ince was one of several United players who ran towards the scene. Cantona had been sent off and sections of the crowd were shouting abuse at Ince. Mr McCann said that Ince was "beckoning" to the crowd and that he

swore, shouting: "Come on then, we'll take the lot of you."

The court was told that Mr Warren, who had come down from the 13th row, was then punched once by Ince and fell backwards.

Ince of Bramhall, Manchester, denies assaulting Mr Warren and using threatening words or behaviour likely to provoke the immediate use of unlawful violence.

Ince, who is black, later told



Dennis Warren

police he had not been subject to racial abuse by the crowd.

Mr Warren told the court the only taunt he made was: "You're a joke and your team's a joke." Mr Warren said: "There was one blow on the side of the nose."

Mr Brandman produced a list of Mr Warren's previous convictions which began in 1969 when he was fined £20 after fighting.

Mr Warren admitted that he should not have come down to the front of the stand because it had led to the ensuing trouble.

Mr Brandman told him: "You were looking for trouble. You were not hit by my client and you didn't fall to the ground." Mr Warren replied: "I'm not on trial here, you raked all that [his past] up."

The magistrates were shown video footage of the alleged incident showing Mr Warren moving to the front of the stand.

Eight spectators were called as prosecution witnesses. Some claimed to have seen Ince land the blow; others said they could only see him shouting and gesticulating. The trial continues.

England call-up, page 44

# Villagers kick out unloved massage parlour

**By ROBIN YOUNG**

RESIDENTS of a village mentioned in the Domesday Book have succeeded in expelling an unwelcome addition to rural services: a massage parlour and suspected brothel set up in a barn near the local hairdressers.

The 900 residents of Orwell, Cambridgeshire, were incensed when advertisements started to appear in the personal columns of local newspapers, offering massage services and therapeutic relief and giving an Orwell telephone number. Some residents received misdirected requests for services that they considered too indecent to describe in detail.

Customers in the hairdresser's saw men arriving at the house next door, complaints were made to the parish council and at least eight villagers wrote to the police. One letter was sent to Ben Gunn, Cambridgeshire Chief Constable, and then circulated in the community. But before a police surveillance operation could be set up the tenants of the barn had disappeared.

The chairman of the parish council, Gordon Lines, 70, a retired quantity surveyor, said yesterday that it was a victory for the residents of his close-knit community, where support for both Church and Chapel is strong. "We only have the hairdressers, a village store and the pub," he said, "but we definitely did not want services of this nature in a nice, quiet village like this. Everyone was horrified."

The parish council discussed the subject at its last meeting but, before any formal action could be taken, the matter had already been sorted out by the villagers. People-power closed it down, by letting them know what people thought and that the police had been informed."

Sergeant Tony Hall, who investigated the villagers' complaints, said: "We took the matter very seriously. We have spoken to local people and it was fairly common knowledge what was happening. Men were turning up regularly."

"Villagers did the right thing by drawing our attention to this."

A villager, David Miller, said Orwell had a tradition going back hundreds of years of making sure people kept in line. "There is a large Methodist community here now. Dating back to the 17th century there were the Muggletonians, a religious group who maintained a strong hold."



Whitehead: kept diary

# Driver's wife is offered £15,000

**By LIN JENKINS AND EMMA WILKINS**

A MOTHER freed on appeal after lying to police about her husband's car accident kept a diary of the three days she spent in Holloway jail to avoid thinking about her three young children.

Patricia Whitehead, 32, who had claimed she was driving when her husband hit a motorcyclist, is considering making her account public after being offered up to £15,000 by newspapers.

As she discussed options with her lawyers yesterday, the motorcyclist injured in the accident last August condemned the Court of Appeal's decision to quash Mrs Whitehead's two-month sentence. Robert Pearce, 28, from Bristol, who suffered minor injuries to his foot, said: "I think she should have stayed in prison because she lied."

Mrs Whitehead, a Cub Scout pack assistant from Brockenhurst, Hampshire, was reunited with Ian, nine, Christian, seven, and Alexander, five, on Monday at their grandparents' home on the Isle of Wight. After an emotional telephone call to her husband in prison, Mrs Whitehead left the house through a gap in the garden hedge - evading a group of reporters outside.

Her mother-in-law Lavina, 74, said: "David is really pleased that she is out and she was pleased to speak to him on the phone. She was very tired because she did not sleep while she was in prison and David has said that he is the same. But she is feeling better and she slept quite well."

Mrs Whitehead is serving four months in Winchester prison for perverting the course of justice. His lawyers are considering an application to the Court of Appeal.

Libby Purves, page 15

**SATURDAY**

**Sweet talkin' guy**

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IN THE **MAGAZINE**

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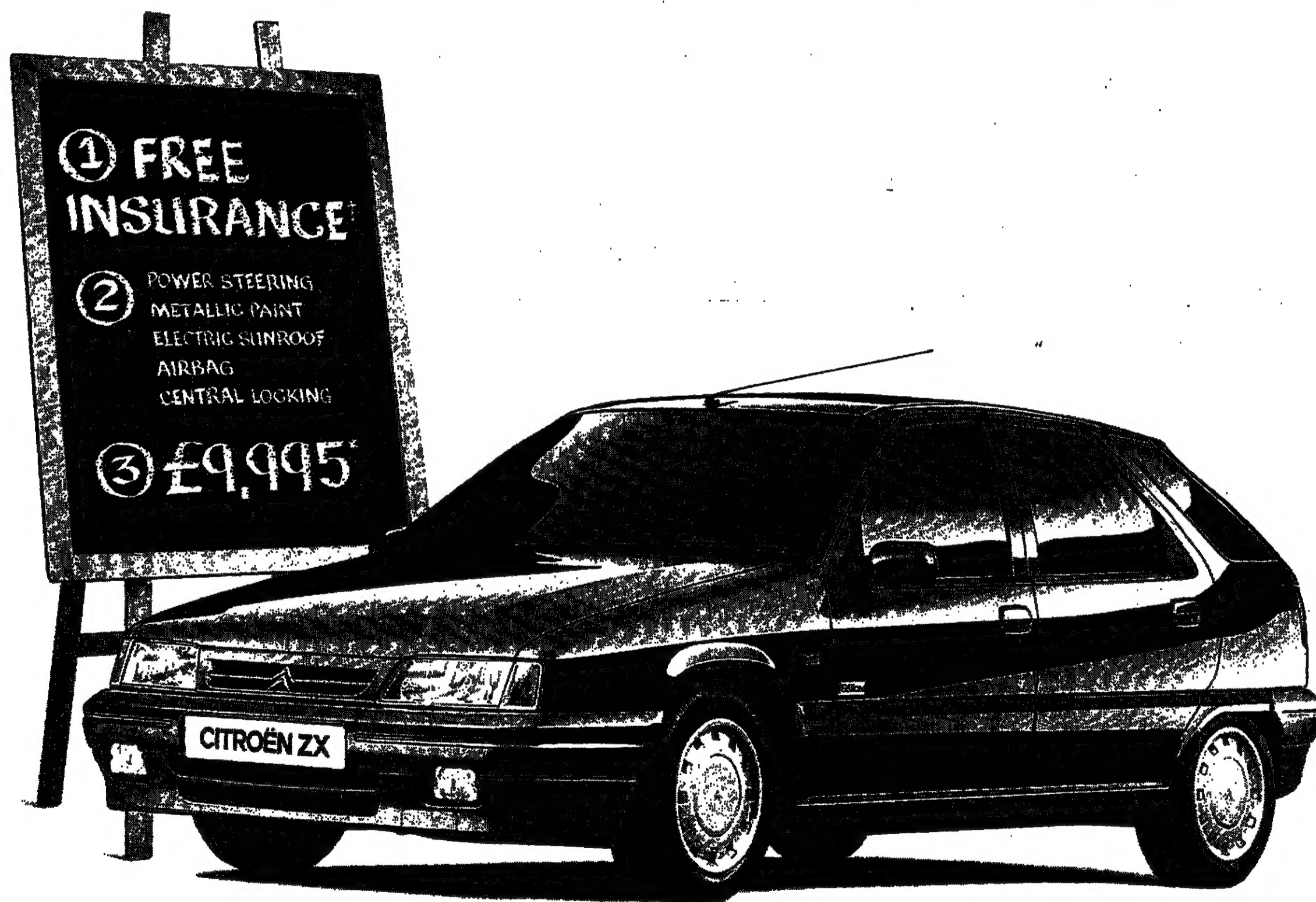
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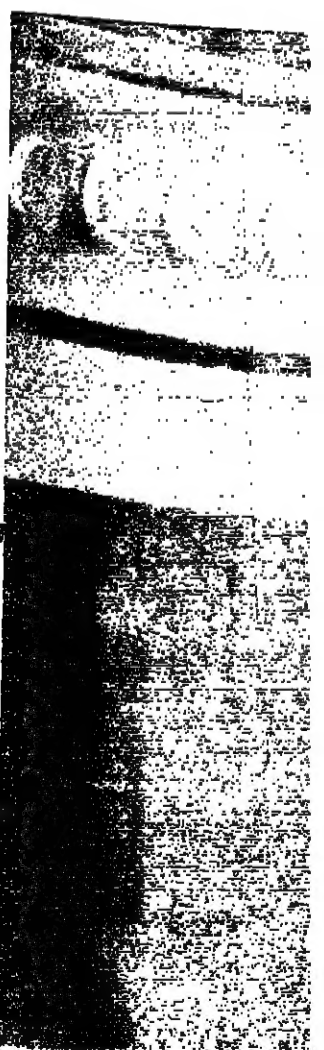
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مكتبة من الأصل



Woman passenger goes home after surviving operation in row 53 of economy class

## Jumbo jet surgeon tells how he saved tourist at 35,000ft

By JEREMY LAURANCE AND ROBIN YOUNG

THE woman whose life was saved in an emergency operation with a coat-hanger on board a jumbo jet flying at 35,000ft left hospital yesterday after doctors said she was doing well.

Pauline Dixon, who collapsed with a punctured lung after being injured in a motor-cycle accident on her way to catch the flight from Hong Kong, was described yesterday by one of her saviours as "an ideal patient".

Mrs Dixon, 39, a mother of three from Aberdeen, would probably have died if she had caught the plane on which she was originally booked and the two doctors had not been aboard to help.

Brian Ellis, consultant surgeon at Ashford Hospital, west London, where Mrs Dixon was taken on arrival at Heathrow on Sunday, said: "Without their action they

would have been taking a corpse off that plane."

Professor Angus Wallace, an accident surgeon at Queen's Medical Centre, Nottingham, who answered an appeal for help on BA flight 032 with Dr Tom Wong, a junior doctor at Stracathro Hospital, Tayside, performed the improvised surgery using cognac, a coat-hanger, a roll of Sellotape and a bottle of mineral water.

Yesterday, Professor Wallace described how he carried out the operation in row 53 of economy class. "The woman was complaining of a painful arm. We made a makeshift splint and made her comfortable but after 20 minutes she said she had a severe pain in the left side of her chest."

"I examined her again and found she had between two and three fractured ribs. Her left lung had collapsed and

was pressing onto the right one. I knew the situation could easily deteriorate. I reckoned we had to operate within five minutes."

"I told her I was terribly sorry but I was going to have to operate. She just smiled and said go ahead."

"The air crew were marvelous. Soon we had constructed a makeshift operating theatre around her seat, pinning up blue and red blankets for privacy. From the on-board emergency medical kit we got scalpels, scissors and a urinary catheter tube. We needed to make the tube rigid so a coat-hanger was pushed into it."

"We used brandy to sterilise the equipment. One of the stewards felt that if we were going to do it we should do it properly so a five-star Courvoisier was produced."

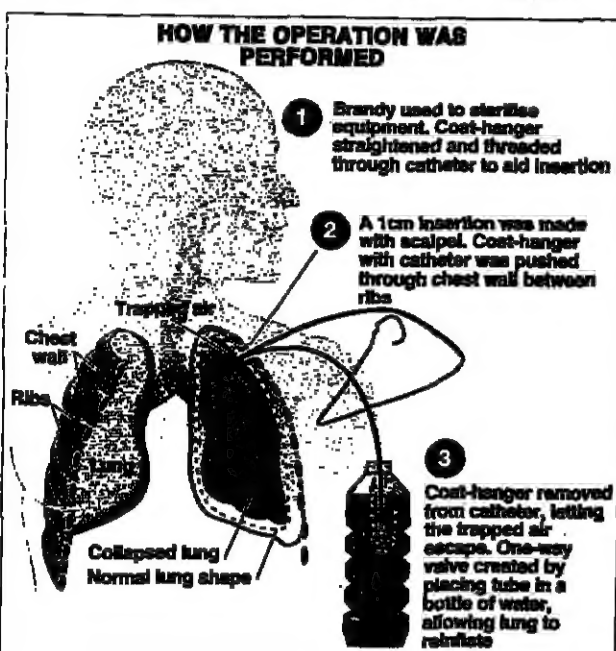
"I then made an incision and pushed the catheter into the chest wall. This was held in place by Sellotape and attached to a bottle of Evian mineral water to act as a chest drain."

"She was an ideal patient. She was apprehensive but she was quite ill, and often people who are quite ill accept what is being done to them. After the operation I must admit I had a rather large shot of brandy to calm my nerves. The patient gave me a kiss and a smile and said thank you."

Dr Wong, back at Stracathro Hospital yesterday, declared he was "delighted to help" but claimed he had played only a small part.

The professor's Nottingham colleagues were not surprised by his actions. One woman doctor said yesterday: "He is never a person to stand back if something needs to be done."

Leading article, page 17



Angus Wallace with the mineral water bottle he used as a chest drain to help to save the life of Pauline Dixon



## Emergency kit packs in 88 items

By HARVEY ELLIOTT  
AIR CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH AIRWAYS handled 2,078 medical incidents ranging from headaches to heart attacks during flights last year — one for every 15,000 passengers. In 559 cases, a doctor or nurse who happened to be on board responded to the emergency. Eighteen flights were diverted to enable a sick passenger to be taken to hospital.

Commercial aircraft are required by law to carry basic medical equipment including bandages, a tourniquet and smelling salts. Many airlines, including British Airways, fly with far more than is required by the Civil Aviation Authority. The BA kit is stored in a secure luggage compartment in the cabin and its seals can be broken only with permission of the captain. The contents are divided into two



BA's box includes scalpel, catheter and 26 drugs

parts, one for use by the cabin crew and the other, containing dangerous drugs, for use only by doctors.

There are 88 items in the kit, including dressings of various types and sizes, a scalpel, catheter, sutures, local anaesthetic, resuscitation equip-

ment and 26 drugs. The kit is regularly checked to ensure it is up-to-date and contains drugs and equipment considered useful.

The captain has sole discretion on whether to allow the treatment of a patient in the air or to divert the aircraft. He can receive instant advice over a high-frequency radio link with a British Airways doctor.

The airline's 13,500 crew members, including pilots and cabin crew, are trained in basic medical emergency drills when they join the company. Cabin crew attend a four-day course in the medical training department, where they are taught how to use the emergency equipment, how to diagnose the more common incidents such as a heart attack or an allergic reaction, and even how to deliver a baby. Crews must pass written and practical examinations before being allowed to fly and return to the medical centre once a year for a day's refresher course.

In this week's emergency operation the medical kit proved invaluable. The doctors used the catheter, scalpel, sterile swabs, sutures, painkillers and local anaesthetic.

## Flying doctors maintain tradition of medical improvisation

Dr Thomas Stuttford

TRAUMATIC tension pneumothorax, the condition in which air collects to form a pocket between the layers of the pleura, the covering to the lungs, is a common complication of fractured ribs and other penetrating injuries.

As air accumulates in the air pocket the lung beneath it becomes increasingly squeezed. The patient suffers chest pain, becomes cyanosed (blue in the face) and distressingly breathless. The accumulation of air within the chest pushes the heart and trachea (windpipe) to one side, the neck veins become distended and the chest wall no longer moves regularly and easily.

Insertion of a flexible tube

through the chest wall into the pocket of air at one end and connected to an underwater seal — in Pauline Dixon's case a bottle of Perrier — at the other allows the air to escape. Once the air has bubbled out through the water seal, the heart returns to its normal position, the patient rapidly becomes pink, and life is saved.

The mid-air operation by Professor Angus Wallace, an orthopaedic surgeon, and Dr Tom Wong, a junior hospital doctor, continues the tradition of doctors improvising in difficult situations. The Sims' vaginal speculum, the metal instrument shaped like the end of a riding crop which is frequently used in

gynaecological examinations, was designed by a doctor who, when out riding, had to use his crop to assess the injuries and stem the bleeding of a woman who damaged her pelvis in a heavy fall.

It is every doctor's nightmare to be faced with a person dying in front of them when they have no access to the tools with which they could so easily save that person's life. Miss Dixon was lucky that there was a surgeon on board, and even luckier that he was an orthopaedic surgeon. By the nature of their profession, they are the car-

penters of medicine, dextrous and accustomed to improvisation.

Preserving the patient's airway is the immediate concern. Often this can be done simply but sometimes the only way to allow a patient to breathe is to introduce an airway through the throat.

To cut somebody's throat is never an easy decision. The old method, the tracheotomy, was described in textbooks as "an operation requiring some nerve and a level head". Tricky in inexperienced hands, even when equipped with scalpels, Spencer Wells forceps, retractors,

scissors and a choice of tracheotomy tubes, the operation is frightening when the only instruments available are a soldier's knife and the barrel of a fountain pen. Yet this operation was carried out on many battlefields in both world wars.

Recently a quicker, and safer, way through the throat and into the airways has been recommended, via the membrane between the thyroid and cricoid cartilages in the neck. This method, too, has been tested in the battlefield: in Cyprus an army sergeant saved a soldier's life by using his knife and a Biro.

In Japanese prison-of-war camps medical officers became past masters in making do. Hollow bamboo

stems were used to give intravenous fluids which had been cleverly sterilised. In the Far East one doctor operated on a case of acute appendicitis and used tough jungle grass for the stitches.

Professor Wallace's choice of brandy as an antiseptic also has good historical precedence. After Nelson was killed at Trafalgar his body was, reportedly, pickled in a barrel of brandy to be brought back to England. Unfortunately, unlike Professor Wallace, who only drank the brandy left over after the operation, Nelson's sailors couldn't resist the occasional swig, and the barrel was half empty by the end of the journey.

## MP faces trial over pick-axe allegation

Allan Stewart, Conservative MP for Eastwood, is to face trial in September charged with brandishing a pick-axe and causing a breach of the peace. Mr Stewart, 53, pleaded not guilty by letter at Paisley Sheriff Court.

The charges relate to the former Scottish Industry Minister's presence on February 5 at the site of a protest against an extension to the M77 Glasgow to Ayr road.

## Mother to sue

A mother of four who became pregnant six months after a contraceptive implant was placed in her arm plans to sue. Sharon Pears, 31, is seeking legal advice on whether she has a case against the UK distributors or Finnish manufacturers.

## Boy remanded

A boy aged 15 was remanded into secure accommodation yesterday charged with the murder of Janet Swanson, 14, behind the Killingbeck industrial estate in Leeds last Saturday. He is to appear in court again on June 1. No bail application was made.

## Death inquiry

The death of a woman at a residential home is being investigated by police. Edna Lawes was allegedly smothered with a pillow on the evening of her 81st birthday. She was found dead by care assistants at the home at Tipton St John, Devon.

## Office ailment

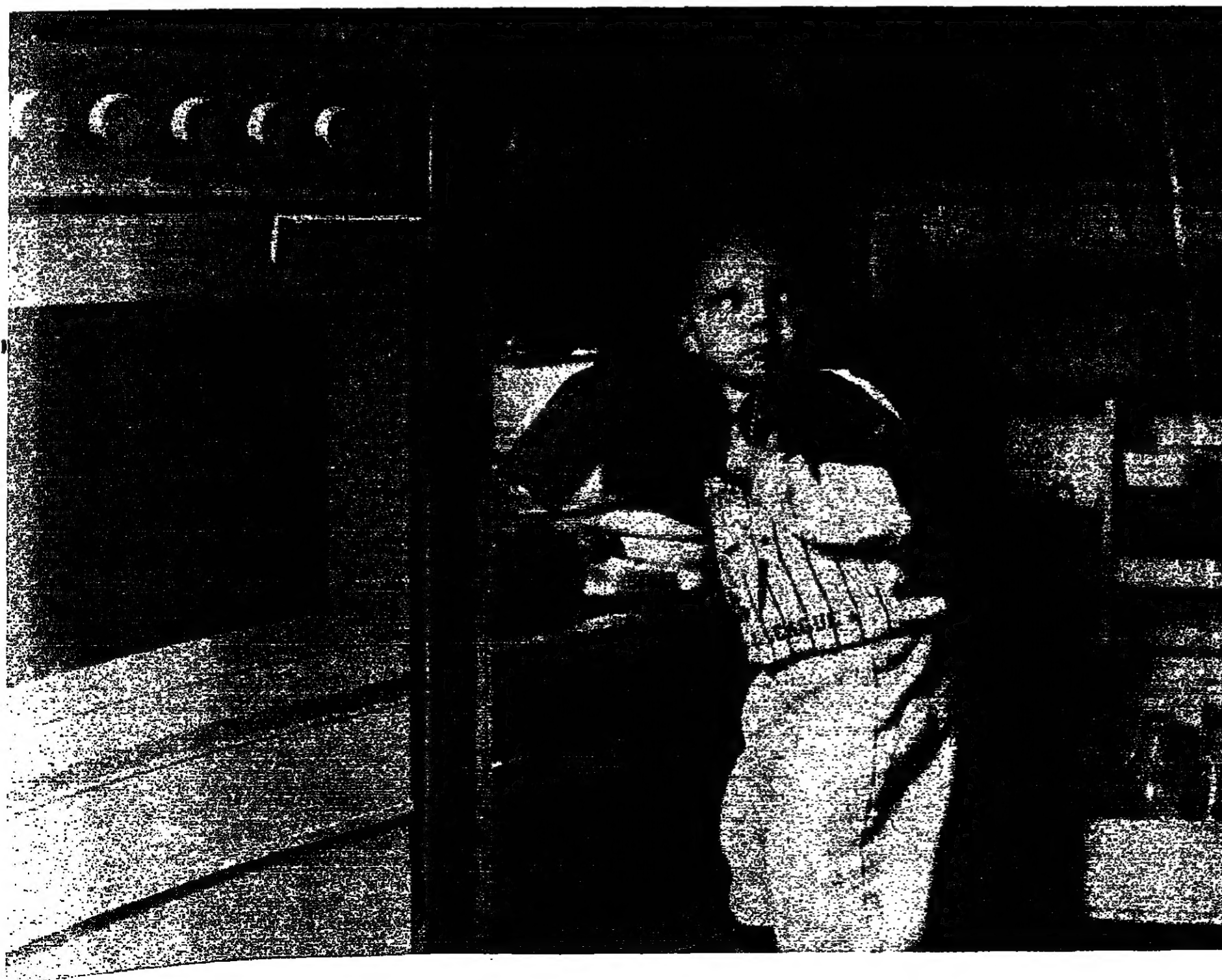
Almost 500,000 people take time off because of "sick building syndrome" which costs millions of pounds in lost productivity, the Health and Safety Executive said. The cause is not known but the condition is more likely in open-plan offices.

## Pupils suspended

Five boarders aged 17 and 18 at Dean Close School, Cheltenham, have been suspended after taking a teacher's car for a two-hour midnight joyride around the town. The final-year pupils will be allowed to sit their A levels. Police are investigating.

## Memoirs sold

The memoirs of a soldier who marched with Wellington in the Peninsular War (1808-14) sold for £6,900 at Bonhams in Knightsbridge. The recollections of Corporal John Parker, of the 20th Foot, from Norfolk, went to a private buyer.



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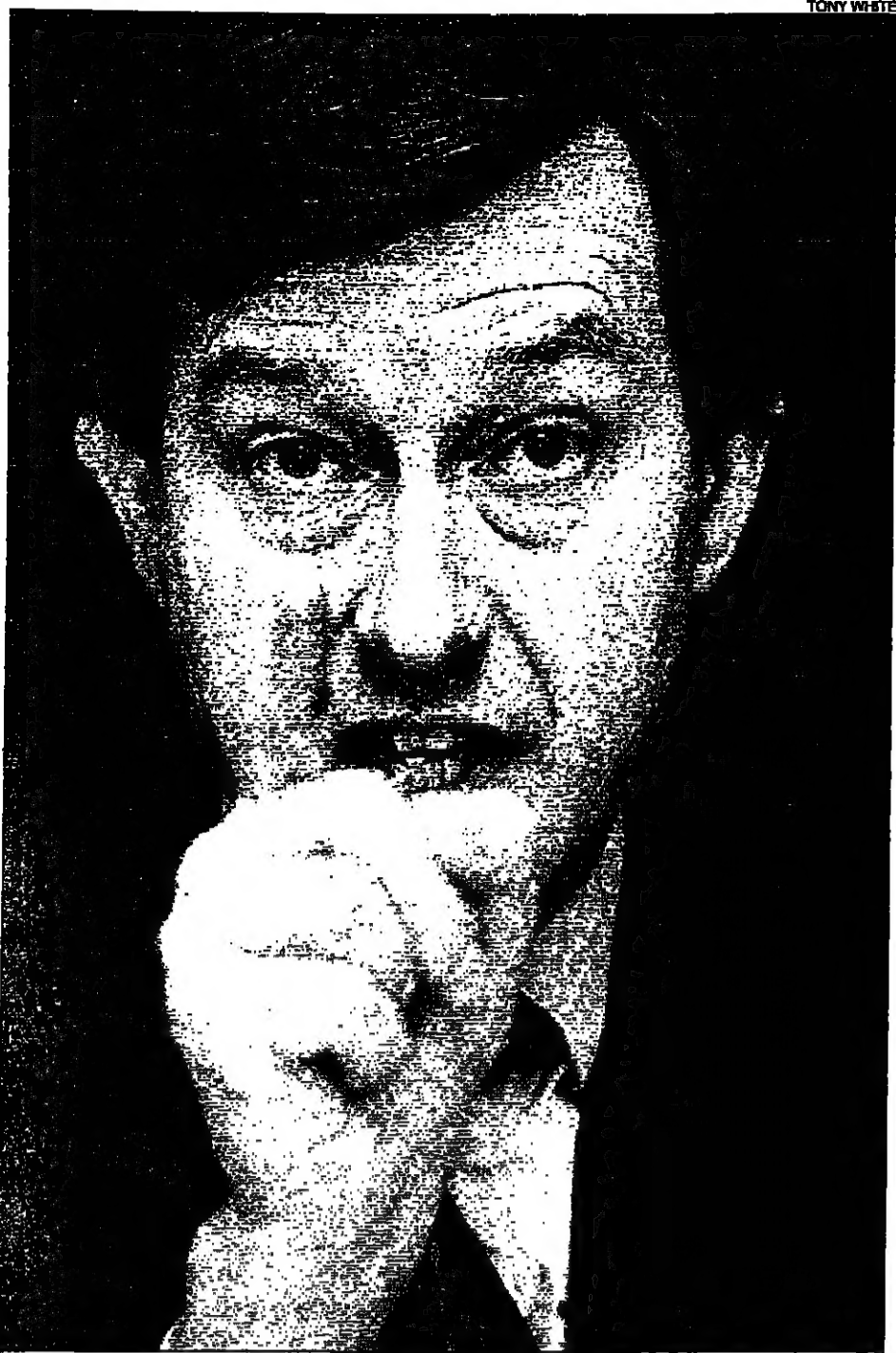


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TONY WHITE



Stephen Dorrell announcing the new regulatory regime in Whitehall yesterday

# Newspaper groups freed to increase investment in television

## Government blueprint sets 10% ceiling on media ownership

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE Government's long-awaited proposals on cross-media ownership would abolish the existing structure of complex rules and replace them with a simple regulatory regime, setting a ceiling of 10 per cent on the total share of the media market that can be controlled by any one company.

The abolition of the current restrictions, which separate television, newspapers and radio, is a recognition of the increasing convergence between the print, television and radio industries. The proposals announced by Stephen Dorrell, the National Heritage Secretary, envisage a two-stage process.

Under the first stage it would enact primary legislation as soon as possible, probably in the next parliamentary session, to remove the restrictions that prevent newspaper and commercial terrestrial television companies from buying more than 20 per cent of each other's shares.

Newspaper groups with less than 20 per cent of national newspaper circulation would be able to buy ITV, cable or satellite television stations, providing they do not have more than 15 per cent of the total available television audience (including cable and satellite, ITV and BBC viewers), and so long as they do not

control more than two ITV licences.

At present only two print groups have more than 20 per cent of total national newspaper circulation. News International, owner of *The Times*, accounts for 37 per cent of national newspaper circulation, while the Mirror group, owner of the *Mirror* and *Independent* titles, has 26 per cent. These two companies would effectively be barred from controlling any terrestrial television company.

Newspaper groups will not be allowed to buy ITV companies or local radio stations in areas where they have more than 30 per cent of the regional newspaper circulation.

Under the legislation, which is unlikely to become law before 1997, television groups would be able to buy newspapers under reciprocal conditions to those applying to print groups. The Independent Television Commission would have to approve all such deals.

No company can own more than two regional ITV licences. This will come as a disappointment to some of the bigger ITV companies, which had lobbied hard to be allowed to hold three or more franchises.

ITV companies will, however, be allowed to invest in cable and satellite companies, and vice versa, providing that no one group has more than 15

### THE MAIN POINTS

#### SHORT-TERM MEASURES

■ Newspaper groups with less than 20 per cent of the national market will be allowed to own ITV companies outright

■ ITV companies with less than 15 per cent of the total television audience can buy national newspapers

■ News International, owner of five national newspapers, including *The Times*, and of 40 per cent in BSkyB, is effectively capped at its current ownership level

#### LONG-TERM MEASURES

■ No company will be able to own more than 10 per cent of the total market

■ No company can own more than 20 per cent of the market in any regional or individual media sector

■ A media regulator will decide whether media ownership levels are in the public interest

per cent of the total available television audience.

Satellite and cable companies which are more than 20 per cent owned by a national newspaper group will be restricted to a maximum of 20 per cent of a terrestrial television station. Thus BSkyB, which is 40 per cent owned by News International, would not be allowed to own more than 20 per cent of any ITV company or Channel 5.

The upper limit on the number of local radio stations controlled by any one company will be removed, but no group will be allowed to own more than one national radio licence or more than 15 per cent of the sector.

The Government intends to

enact immediate legislation, which could come into force within the next two months, to tidy up a number of unresolved issues. This would include increasing the limit on the number of local radio licences that any single company may own from 20 to 35.

Stage two of the proposals would introduce a fresh approach to media ownership, based on the share of the total market. No company would be allowed to own more than 10 per cent of the total media market. Within that overall limit, no one owner would be permitted to control more than 20 per cent of any sector (television, press or radio) or 20 per cent of the media market in any region.

Ownership above these thresholds would not automatically be illegal, but would be subject to approval by an independent media regulator, who would decide whether it was in the public interest, which would be deemed to include promotion of diversity within the industry.

The means by which media concentration is to be measured have yet to be defined and may include weightings giving varying degrees of importance to each media type.

The concept of thresholds and a weighted points system is similar in approach suggested to the Government by the British Media Industry Group, which has waged a vigorous campaign to allow newspaper groups greater freedom to invest in television companies. The group comprises Associated Newspapers, owner of the *Daily Mail*; Pearson, which owns the *Financial Times*; The Guardian Media Group and The Telegraph plc.

The Department of National Heritage is inviting responses to the policy document by August 31. The stage two policies are unlikely to appear in a White Paper before the next Parliament and it could be the next century before they become law.

Berlusconi pullout, page 12  
Leading article, page 17  
Media, page 30

## Markets predict shaky picture for TV firms

By MARTIN WALLER

THE losers under yesterday's proposals would appear to include News International and the Mirror Group, both of which control more of the media market than would be permissible.

However, the City saw no immediate threat to either. The rules will take at least until the end of the decade to implement, and much leeway will apparently be left with the unnamed and unspecified industry regulator. Shares in News International were unchanged, while those in the Mirror Group were only slightly lower.

Instead the City turned its attention to the medium-sized television companies, which are now unlikely to be taken over by bigger licence-holders. Shares in Scottish Television and Yorkshire-Tyee Tees fell heavily, both having been seen previously as serious bid candidates. One broker said: "There is going to be no ITV consolidation for the next couple of years."

Granada, with 14 per cent of Yorkshire-Tyee Tees, cannot now buy the rest because it already has two franchises: its home base in the North West and the London Weekend franchise. Likewise, MAI, which this month bought a near-15 per cent holding in Yorkshire-Tyee Tees from Pearson, is blocked by its ownership of Anglia and a controlling stake in Meridian.

A third big player, Carlton, also has two franchises. "It makes Pearson's decision to sell its Yorkshire-Tyee Tees stake look quite clever," one analyst said, "and MAI's decision to buy less clever."

Scottish Television is known to have expansion plans, but its big shareholder — the Mirror Group, with 20 per cent — is prevented from further purchases because of the size of its share of the newspaper market. Scottish cannot even combine with Yorkshire to gain size and buying power because of the latter's ownership of the Tyee Tees franchise.

The most likely buyers of the medium-sized television operators were seen to be ambitious newspaper groups such as those that own *The Guardian* and the *Daily*

### THE PRESS

Share of total national newspaper circulation

Newspaper group	Share (%)
News International	37
<i>The Sun</i> , <i>Today</i> , <i>The Times</i> , <i>News of the World</i> , <i>The Sunday Times</i>	
Mirror Group Newspapers	26
<i>Daily Mirror</i> , <i>Daily Record</i> , <i>Sunday Mirror</i> , <i>Sunday Record</i>	
<i>The Herald</i> , <i>The Independent</i> , <i>The Independent on Sunday</i>	
United Newspapers	15
<i>Daily Express</i> , <i>Daily Star</i> , <i>Sunday Express</i>	
Daily Mail and General Trust	12
<i>Daily Mail</i> , <i>The Mail on Sunday</i>	
The Telegraph plc	7
<i>Daily Telegraph</i> , <i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	
Guardian Media Group	3
<i>The Guardian</i> , <i>The Observer</i>	
Pearson	1
<i>Financial Times</i>	

Source: Based on ABC audited figures Jan-Dec 1994 adjusted to take account of Sunday newspapers and rounded to the nearest whole number.

*Mail*. The Guardian group has a 15 per cent holding in the morning broadcaster GMTV, while the Mail group has 20 per cent of Westcountry, although its strong local newspaper inter-

ests there might preclude further buying.

The imminent liberalisation of the radio market boosted shares in Capital Radio and the Bristol-based GWR. "Radio is the net beneficiary," one City analyst said.

Other judgments from the City were that the proposals were vague, "a damp squib" and "a hedge-podge". Anthony de Larrinaga, of the broker Panmure Gordon, summed up the mood when he said: "Wherever there is some synergy, then you aren't allowed to take advantage of it."

He added: "Letting some mid-range newspaper players into television would release some of the shackles. But the consolidation that had been seen to be coming seems not to be the case now."

"It's really down to the likes of United Newspapers [owner of the *Express* titles], the Mail group and Pearson. It gives them the opportunities, but it's a question of whether they will take them."

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## Mackay advocates league table of legal aid lawyers

BY FRANCES GIBBS, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

CLIENTS would be able to choose lawyers according to their success in winning cases under "league tables" proposed by the Lord Chancellor yesterday.

Lord Mackay of Clashfern told a conference in London that the public should be able to choose a legal aid lawyer "not by a firm's popularity but by outcomes". Contracts awarded by the Legal Aid Board should also be granted on standards of service. "It is not for me to tell people which solicitors they should go to, but it may be for me to say that the chance of getting a longer prison sentence is greater if they go to X rather than Y — and leave them to make a decision," he said.

In a reference to high-profile "campaigning" law firms, Lord Mackay said: "If a particular firm is popular, for one reason or another, but gives a very poor service to its clients, should that firm be preferred by those clients?"

Popularity does not necessarily mean that those who are popular are good.

The proposals could be extended to barristers' chambers. Lord Mackay said after his speech. Solicitors and advice agencies who will be "buying" barristers' services would want data on which to judge their success rates, in line with the performance data that hospital doctors have to provide for GP budget-holders.

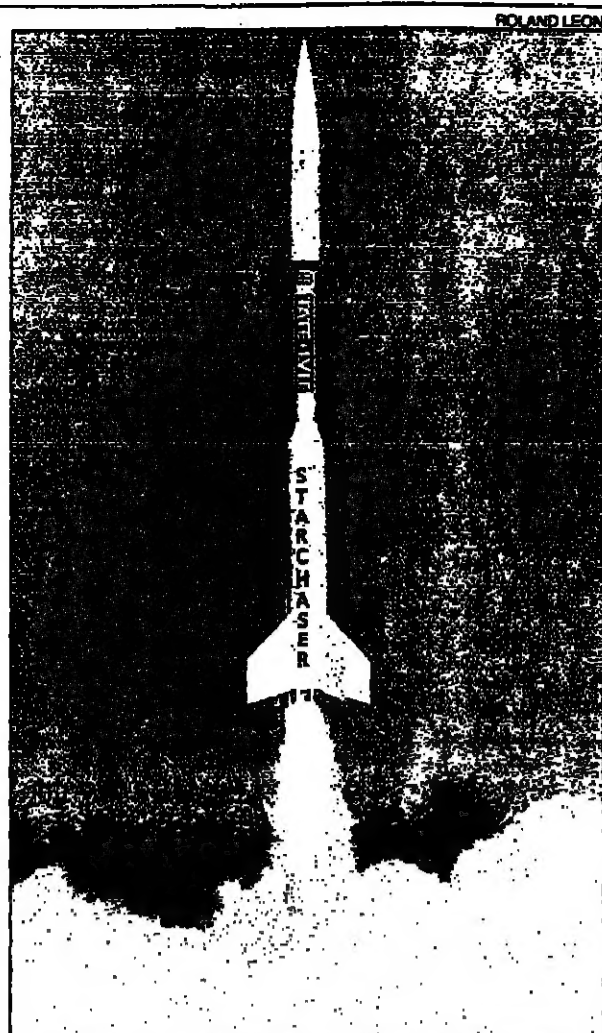
Last week Lord Mackay outlined Green Paper proposals to reform the £1.4 billion legal aid scheme in which contracts would be awarded to law firms and advice agencies. He told more than 300 lawyers and advice workers yesterday that such contracts would be allocated on quality of service.

Measurements of performance or "outcomes" of cases had been done in the field of education, where league tables were published. "Criteria

of that kind might be of some importance in deciding if a firm's popularity was well gained," Lord Mackay said that when at the Bar he had marvelled at the way certain people succeeded in attracting work. But their clients did not always benefit from their services "for some considerable time". Steven Orchard, chief executive of the Legal Aid Board, said that it would be possible to devise success rates for each area of legal work. Other factors would include time taken on a case, whether the judgment was enforced and client satisfaction.

The proposals were criticised by Henry Hodge, deputy vice-president of the Law Society, who said: "The problem is, who would decide what a good result is? If a solicitor coerces someone into a guilty plea and into getting a short sentence, is that a measure of success?"

Law Report, page 37



Sugar-powered Starchaser 1A lifting off yesterday

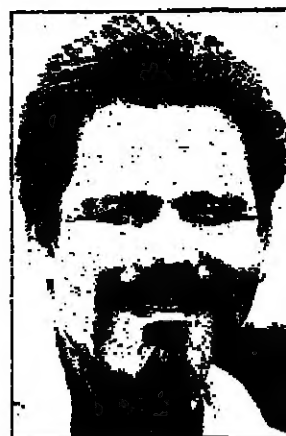
## Rocket man launches DIY craft towards final frontier

BY LUCY BERRINGTON

AN AMATEUR scientist launched a rocket 1½ miles into the sky yesterday, using fuel made from household sugar. He promised to conquer space before the end of the century.

Two hundred spectators gathered to watch Steve Bennett's 10ft-long prototype rocket, Starchaser 1A, make its maiden flight. After its successful mission, monitored by an onboard computer chip, the rocket fell back to Earth assisted by parachute, landing close to the launch site in Montgomery, Powys.

Mr Bennett, a 31-year-old laboratory technician from Manchester, now hopes his secret propellant will set records in the DIY space programme. He said: "I am getting closer and closer to the big one and I am determined to send one of my rockets into Space by the year 2000, with me in it if it's possible by then. I believe I'm close to leading the world in amateur rocketry and the fuel I'm working with just now is good



Bennett: inventive

enough to blow the opposition away."

Mr Bennett's next mission, scheduled for November, is an attempt to launch a 24ft craft, the biggest amateur rocket in Europe, more than two miles into the sky. He said: "Starchaser 2 will be four times heavier but will not be as fast. The original Starchaser 1 was a failure because the parachutes failed to open and it was smashed to pieces."

Mr Bennett started build-

ing rockets at the age of 13, inspired by the television series *Thunderbirds* and *Star Trek*. He made his early prototypes from old aluminium tubing and whatever household debris came to hand. "All the other kids were into their fairy stories and sci-fi. But I was always interested in science because it made things really happen. By the time I was 13 I had made up my mind that I was going to build rockets and send them as high up into space as I could."

"Rockets are dangerous and volatile but a successful launch really is poetry in motion. My spine begins to tingle and the buzz I get out of it is incredible. One day I might be the next Captain Kirk, leading a team of explorers through the final frontier."

He uses the lightweight carbon composites that built the Challenger space shuttle. Working in his garage, he spends eight months constructing an airworthy rocket. Tate and Lyle, sponsor of the project, supplied an undisclosed quantity of money and sugar.

## Allotment gardeners fail to halt eviction

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY

ALLOTMENT holders have lost a legal battle to save their plots from council development in a case with far-reaching implications for thousands of allotment gardeners.

A High Court judge ruled yesterday that Newcastle City Council could evict the holders provided that "adequate provision" was made for them elsewhere even though they enjoyed statutory protection under the 1925 Allotments Act. The council hopes to raise £500,000 by selling the land.

Mr Justice Laws upheld an Environment Department decision in November 1993 to overrule the advice of its planning inspector and approve the development of the 7,750 sq yd site of 30 plots in Gosforth where there have been allotments since before the Second World War.

The case turned on the interpretation of the phrase "adequate provision" in the Act. The judge accepted the department's view that it meant the offer of any alternative site "on which allotment gardening can reasonably be undertaken by the persons who are displaced". He rejected claims that the new plots had to be as good as the old.

## Sixth-form voucher scheme deferred

BY JOHN O'LEARY AND BEN PRESTON

PLANS to issue education vouchers to sixth-formers were postponed indefinitely yesterday after the Government accepted that they posed too many practical problems to allow swift progress before the next general election.

The decision is a rebuff for Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary, who had sought Cabinet support for pilot schemes involving 25,000 16-year-olds. Ministers would commit themselves only to re-examining the funding advantage enjoyed by schools over further education colleges, the main barrier to fair competition between the two sectors.

Mr Portillo and Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, yesterday announced that careers advice would be strengthened and that further consultations would be held on introducing vouchers, or "learning credits" and on changes to sixth-form funding. A government-commissioned study by the management consultants Coopers & Lybrand concluded: "As a concept, learning credits is attractive. However, to turn the concept into reality is far from simple."

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## THE TIMES An evening with Baroness Thatcher



To mark the publication of her second volume of memoirs, *The Path to Power*, *The Times*, in co-operation with Dillons, invites readers to an evening with Lady Thatcher. Following the success of her first *Times/Dillons* forum, when she spoke about *The Downing Street Years*, Lady Thatcher will now turn her attention to the years leading up to her premiership. She will discuss her childhood in Grantham, the profound influence of her father, her marriage to Denis, her early career as a politician, her determined rise to power. She will also give characteristically forthright opinions on some of the century's leading political figures. The forum will be chaired by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*, and will offer those attending the opportunity to question Lady Thatcher.

The forum will be held at Westminster Central Hall, Storey's Gate, London SW1 on Tuesday, June 13 at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 each (concessions, £7.50) and are available by ringing 0171-915 6613, by faxing the coupon below to 0171-580 7680, or by sending it, with your remittance, to Dillons the Bookstore, 82 Gower Street, London WC1, where tickets can also be purchased.

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'There is no doubt that as a Church we are going through turbulence'

# Country cleric chosen to become the next Bishop of St Albans

By RUTH GLEDHILL, RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

A COUNTRY clergyman has been plucked from obscurity to head one of the most important dioceses in the Church of England.

The Ven Christopher Herbert, Archdeacon of Dorking, Surrey, is to become Bishop of St Albans, succeeding one of the Church's most respected elder statesmen, the Right Rev John Taylor, who retires later this year.

He said he was immensely surprised although he was aware that his was on the list of names of those considered suitable for elevation.

He pledged to give a strong moral lead in his diocese and fight for Christian values. Society should return to traditional values based on Christian concepts such as "love God" and "love thy neighbour", he said. Canon Herbert said he had a "passion for evangelism" and defined him-

self as a "central, open-minded, orthodox Anglican".

Canon Herbert, 51, who was born in the Forest of Dean and whose mother was a journalist, graduated from the University of Wales in Lampeter and then studied at Wells and Bristol. He has written 13 books on prayer and spirituality for adults and children. His wife Jan is an English teacher.

He said of the invitation to be the next Bishop of St Albans: "It's a massive task and a very humbling one."

"There is no doubt that as a Church we face a challenging future. We are going through a period of turbulence, but I believe that the energy, expertise and will are there at all levels in the Church to turn the problems we face into opportunities."

He said the Church was no longer in a privileged position. The answer to getting the

message across was not to "cheapen the truths we're trying to convey". The Church must speak out on social issues, he said. "Where society is neither fair nor just, the Church must not be afraid to say so."

The appointment of a man who, albeit a prolific author on prayer and spirituality, does not belong to the General Synod and is little known in the Church at large, was greeted by surprise but welcomed yesterday.

The Bishop of Hertford, the Right Rev Robin Smith, a suffragan to the Bishop of St Albans, said: "Everything I hear about him fills me with a sense of gratitude and excited anticipation. As an archdeacon, he is one of the people who run the Church of England. As a bishop he will have to forget how to manage and learn how to lead." The ap-

pointment was also welcomed as imaginative in a Church facing the appointment of many new bishops over the coming few years as the bulge of post-war and 1960s ordinations approach retirement. This year alone the Crown Appointments Commission must decide on new appointments for London, Winchester, Derby and Portsmouth. If



Canon Herbert and his wife Jan at St Albans after news of his appointment

one or more of those goes, as expected, to another diocesan bishop, further vacancies will be created.

The resultant appointments are crucial because they are likely to involve the promotion of many formerly unknown clergymen, and the choices, made ultimately by the Queen on the advice of the Prime Minister, will determine the

form of church leadership well into the next millennium. Canon Herbert succeeds two of the Church's most eminent leaders this century.

Bishop Taylor, one of 26 bishops in the House of Lords, who is also the Lord High Almoner, took over from Dr Robert Runcie, who went on to become Archbishop of Canterbury in 1980.

# Learner drivers to sit exam on theory before practical test

By JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

LEARNER drivers will have to answer written questions on the Highway Code, road safety and their attitudes towards other road users before being allowed to take a full driving test, the Government announced yesterday.

Candidates sitting the new half-hour written examination from July next year will have to tick the correct answer to 35 questions. Each question will have four possible responses.

At least 600 multiple choice questions have been prepared for 20 different papers chosen at random to prevent cheating. They will cover 12 out of a possible 14 topics.

The test, which will probably have to be taken at further education colleges, will cost between £10 and £15 on top of the £28.50 for the practical test. Those who pass will be expected to take their practical test within two years.

The test brings Britain in line with the rest of the European Union and marks the biggest change to the driving test since it was introduced 60 years ago. About 750,000 people are expected to sit the new exam, which replaces the theory element at the end of the present test, within its first year.

Steve Norris, the Roads Minister, said the exam, the latest phase of the Government's campaign to cut the accident rate among young drivers, would make newly qualified motorists more aware of hazards once they discarded their L-plates.

"For drivers of all ages inexperience is the most significant factor in accidents," he said. "In having to prepare for a theory test, people will become better drivers."

The test will be at a level to allow people with low standards of literacy to understand the questions. There will also be tests in Welsh and the main ethnic minority languages. Tests for people with

special needs such as reading difficulties or physical disabilities are being considered. Pass levels have not yet been set.

The proposed exam was welcomed by BSM, the driving instruction company. "No one currently fails their driving test by incorrectly answering the six questions at the end," Richard Glover, BSM's managing director, said. "The Highway Code is too often read the night before and never looked at again."

However, the planned exam was condemned as a price and irrelevant by motor insurance organisations. "We are disappointed that the Government has taken what is the cheapest option," said Andrew Howard, of the AA, which wanted the theory test to be based on a computerised "hazard awareness" system.

Edmund King, of the RAC, said it also opposed the planned written test. "There is no evidence to suggest that a written test produces better drivers," Mr King said. He urged the Government to introduce lessons in safe driving to form part of the national curriculum.

Mr Norris said that a computer-based or video-based interactive test had been ruled out at this stage by cost and because the benefits were not proven. "At least in the early years we have settled on the tried and tested method of paper and pencil," he said. The impact of the new test on accident rates would be closely monitored and if it proved inadequate would be changed accordingly.

The test will be operated by a private organisation with experience in running examinations but with no interests in driver training. Bidders must submit formal tenders to the Department of Transport by November with the winning bidder being selected in January.

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☐ no footpath ahead  
☐ pedestrians only ahead  
☐ pedestrian crossing ahead  
☐ school crossing ahead

2. You are towing a trailer on a motorway. What is your maximum speed limit?

☐ 60mph  
☐ 40mph  
☐ 50mph  
☐ 70mph

3. You are at a road junction, turning into a minor road. There are pedestrians crossing the minor road. You should:

☐ stop and wave the pedestrians across.  
☐ sound your horn to let the pedestrians know you are there.  
☐ give way to pedestrians who are already crossing.  
☐ carry on, the pedestrians should give way to you

4. You are carrying two children and their parents in your car. Who is responsible for seeing that the children wear seat belts?

☐ the children's parents are responsible  
☐ you are responsible  
☐ the front seat passenger is responsible  
☐ the children are responsible

5. You are testing your suspension. You notice that your vehicle continues to bounce when you press down on the front wings. What does this mean?

☐ worn tyres  
☐ tyres under-inflated  
☐ steering wheel not located centrally  
☐ worn shock absorbers

Answers: 1 pedestrian crossing ahead, 2 give way to pedestrians who are already crossing, 3 60mph, 4 you are, 5 worn shock absorbers

## Pacific sponge could yield cancer drug

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

CAMBRIDGE scientists have found a way of reproducing an anti-cancer chemical found in Pacific Ocean sponges. It will now be tested as a potential cancer drug.

Dr Ian Paterson said that the chemical was produced by algae that lived in symbiosis with the sponges. "They are used as a kind of chemical defence by the sponge," he said. "The sponge provides the algae with a home and in return they make chemicals which repel predators."

Japanese researchers found in 1990 that one of the chemicals, called swinholid A, showed anti-cancer properties in laboratory experiments. Large-scale extraction of the chemical was impracticable because tons of sponges would have yielded only a few milligrams.

The Cambridge team is the first to find a way of synthesising it in the laboratory. The next stage will be to make a range of similar chemicals and test whether their anti-cancer performance is better. The ultimate objective would be a new range of cancer drugs.

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# Oklahoma purges skyline of city's tragic monument

FROM TOM RHODES IN OKLAHOMA CITY

THE BUILDING that had become a monument to America's worst act of terrorism vanished from the Oklahoma City skyline yesterday.

At exactly 7am, the ripple of 220 explosive charges brought the Alfred Murrah Building thudding to the ground in a cloud of rubble and dust.

For the hundreds of Oklahomans who had come to watch, it was a time for tears and a symbolic end to the nightmare that began last month when a fertiliser bomb ripped through the building, killing 167 people, including 19 children, and maiming dozens more. Now the city had lost its most vivid scar and the long process of healing could begin.

Ken Thompson had not slept the previous night. The body of his mother Virginia, 50, was still inside when the

teams of demolition experts planned their sticks of dynamite.

"I think it's going to be OK now. It sounds strange but this is a joyful occasion for us," said Mr Thompson as he watched the nine floors collapse like pancakes before the awkward shape of the rear lift shaft teetered and then fell in their midst. "We all have faith that they will try to recover our mother and that's what matters. I think that what has happened here today is an exorcism of evil for us, for our state, and for the whole of America."

Mrs Thompson had started work for the credit union in January. A colleague, Christy Rosas, 22, was still missing in the rubble while rescuers also hoped to find the body of Alvin Justus, 54. He is thought to

have been a customer at their offices on the morning of the blast on April 19.

The trio had been trapped in a section that was too dangerous for an earlier search. Instead, the area has been sprayed with orange paint and covered with tarpaulin. In the next three weeks, 4,500 tonnes of debris will be removed from the site and firemen hope they will find the remaining bodies.

It was an emotional moment, not just for the families of the victims and the survivors, but also for the teams of volunteers who had spent weeks digging through the building.

Doug Loizeaux, vice-president of Controlled Demolition Incorporated, cried as his handywork created a perfect implosion. More than 150lbs of explosive had been placed strategically to create a progressive collapse. "Normally there is a sort of carnival atmosphere when we do this. People are interested in our expertise," he said. "This time, it was so solemn. There was a sense of terrible sadness combined with the realisation that, for everyone's sake, we had to get this done as quickly as possible."

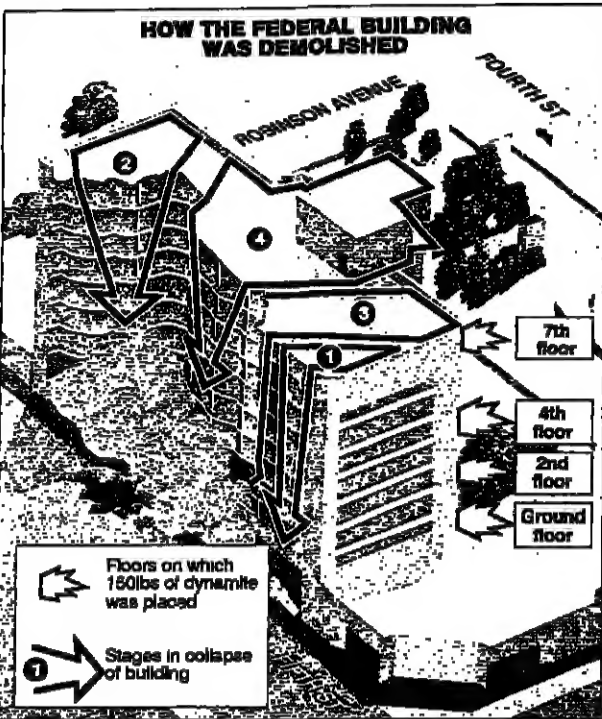
Funds continued to pour into Oklahoma yesterday, including a \$10,000 (£6,000) donation from the figure skater, Nancy Kerrigan, who said she wanted to help educate those who had lost their families in the bombing.

However, the FBI trail for the bombers may have gone cold. Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, the two men charged with the bombing, are in custody.

But James Nichols, the brother from Michigan who was thought to have been involved in the plot, has been released. Other leads have come to nothing.



The Alfred Murrah Building in Oklahoma, the scene last month of America's worst terrorist attack, collapses in a controlled explosion yesterday



## Man charged over death of Gerulaitis

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

A MECHANIC who installed a heater under the house in which tennis star Vitas Gerulaitis died of carbon monoxide poisoning last September has been charged with criminally negligent homicide.

Gerulaitis, 40, was found dead in a poolside guest cottage belonging to a friend in the resort town of Southampton on Long Island. The mechanic Bart Torpey, 35, faces a maximum sentence of up to four years in prison.

## Judge removes butler as executor of \$1.2bn estate

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN NEW YORK

THE pony-tailed former butler to Doris Duke, the tobacco heiress, has been removed as an executor of her \$1.2 billion (£764 million) estate by a Manhattan judge who described the Irish-born Bernard Lafferty as a profligate, illiterate drunk who has squandered hundreds of thousands of dollars from the estate of his late employer.

Duke died in October 1993 at the age of 80, and Monday's decision to sack Mr Lafferty came after months of wrangling over the legacy of the woman once held to be "the richest girl in the world". The court has yet to rule on the validity of a will, which left the bulk of her fortune to charity but awarded Mr Lafferty \$5 million as co-executor and an annual stipend of \$500,000. The will has been chal-

lenged by Duke's former doctor, who claims the aged heiress was coerced into signing it and was befuddled by drugs. The butler has also been accused of conspiring with other doctors to hasten



Duke: once known as the world's richest girl

his employer's death with a lethal overdose of morphine. Judge Eve Preminger noted that immediately after Duke's death Mr Lafferty, who began working for the American Tobacco Company heiress in 1986, moved into her house and travelled the world in a private Boeing 737 jet and chauffeured Cadillac.

Mr Lafferty enjoyed a "profligate lifestyle", while showing "a cavalier attitude towards money", the judge said. His reckless behaviour disqualified him, the judge concluded, citing his taste for expensive jewellery, antique furniture and designer clothes as well as his drinking binges and use of anti-depressants. The court also removed the United States Trust Company as co-executor, saying it should have limited his spending.

## Congress to honour Agnew

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

CONGRESS will honour one of the capital's most notorious crooks today at a cost of \$50,000 to the taxpayer.

The Senate will unveil a bust, sculpted from Italian marble, of Spiro Agnew, Vice-President to Richard Nixon and the first man forced to resign that office in disgrace.

Vice-Presidents are also Senate presidents, and entitled to have their busts placed outside the Senate chamber if they ask. Mr Agnew has done so, and will attend tonight's ceremony, but it remains to be seen what kind words Senator Ted Stevens, chairman of the Rules and Administration Committee, will find to say.

Mr Agnew was forced from office after the Attorney-General accused him of bribery and extortion.

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Mr al-Takriti's removal was seen as the result of his rivalry with Uday, whose newspaper, *Babel*, has attacked his ministry and the police for failing to control a crime wave that has grown with the five-year-old United Nations sanctions.

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TWENTY TWO



President's surprise move loads the electoral dice in his favour as support weakens

# Yeltsin veto risks crisis in Duma and threatens poll

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT Yeltsin yesterday jeopardised Russia's general elections planned for this year when he vetoed a key electoral Bill and triggered a political crisis with parliament.

In a move which surprised and angered leading Russian politicians, Mr Yeltsin rejected proposed legislation setting out the rules for future parliamentary elections. The Duma, the Lower House of parliament, had passed the Bill which proposed that half of the 450 deputies would be elected by party list, while the other half would be elected by regional constituencies.

The President said in a letter to Ivan Rybkin, the Speaker of Parliament, that he favoured a two-thirds, one-third breakdown in favour of the constituencies to make deputies more accountable to the electorate. He also opposed the Duma's decision to bar serving government officials from standing as parliamentary candidates.

The row is more than just a question of political semantics. Public support for Mr Yeltsin and his Government has been steadily eroding for months to the point where his supporters face defeat at the

general elections and he faces a tough re-election campaign in polls due next year.

However, through a system of patronage the President still maintains powerful supporters among regional governors, factory bosses and bureaucrats who can often play a deciding role in the success or failure of candidates standing in the provinces. In contrast, populist parties, like Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's ultra-nationalist Liberal Democratic Party, which won a third of the seats in the last elections, do better under the party list system.

"The dispute over the election Bill is another crossroads at which the head of state chose the worst path," said Viktor Sheinis, a member of the liberal Yabloko faction. "The [future] legislature will reflect only the interests of the ruling elite rather than the people."

Democrats, communists and nationalist Duma members promised to fight the presidential veto, which many regarded as an attempt to load the election in favour of the newly-formed government party "Our Home is Russia" led by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister. "The

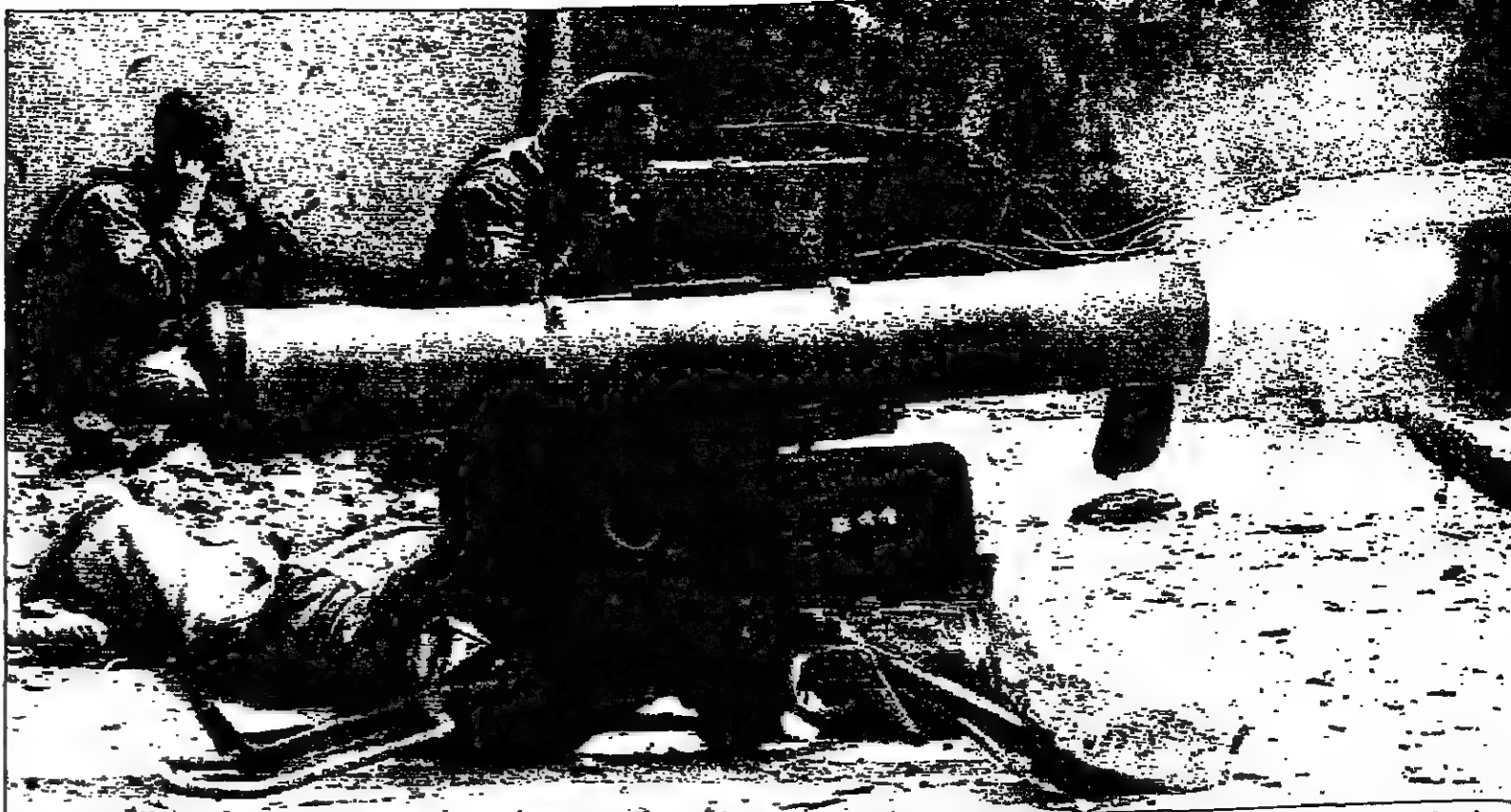
broad representation of districts will enable [Mr Chernomyrdin's] party of power to help its candidates at elections and give a free hand to the regional mafia," said Anatoli Lukyanov, a communist deputy and former chairman of the Soviet parliament.

Kremlin officials insisted that a compromise can still be reached in time for the elections. However, the Kremlin and Duma have only a few weeks to reach an accord. The new law must be passed by parliament and the President no later than August 12, four months before polling day.

"It is very hard to imagine a Duma majority accepting the President's proposals," said Vasilii Lipitsky, a deputy in parliament. "The possibility that we will not have this law ready in August has greatly increased."

TV block: The Federation Council, Russia's Upper House of parliament, yesterday voted to suspend Mr Yeltsin's plans to privatise the country's main television channel. The Duma made the same decision last month. (AP)

Leading article, page 17



Russian troops fire an anti-tank missile during fighting at a cement plant in Chir-Yurt in the breakaway Caucasian republic of Chechnya

## Chechens castrated Russian prisoners, says refugee

BY MICHAEL EVANS  
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

TWENTY-FIVE Russian soldiers captured by Chechen rebels were surgically castrated, according to Western intelligence sources yesterday.

The grim account of the fate that befell the Russians after being taken prisoner was revealed by a refugee medical worker who was in the civilian hospital where the soldiers were taken for treatment. Discounting the possibility that the report was

merely part of a black propaganda campaign, the intelligence sources said that the medical worker described in a debriefing how the soldiers had been castrated with professional precision. There was no sign of any battle wounds.

The brutal treatment of the Russians underlined the dangers facing the occupying forces as they attempt to crush the Chechen rebels.

Yesterday there was fierce fighting around the village of Bamut, including Russian air attacks, despite the

prospect of peace talks which are due to begin tomorrow. The talks are being held between Chechen and Russian representatives under the auspices of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe at its mission in Grozny, the capital of Chechnya.

However, General Dzokhar Dudayev, the Chechen rebel leader, has apparently decided not to attend the peace talks. Salambek Khadzhiyev, the Moscow-appointed head of the new Chechen government, said

General Dudayev's name had not been included on a list of Chechen representatives for the talks.

The Itar-Tass news agency in Moscow said the Chechen delegation would be led instead by Usman Imaev, the prosecutor-general, who would have the right to negotiate an end to the five-month conflict in which thousands of people have died.

A Hungarian foreign ministry official had earlier said he was sure General Dudayev would turn up for the talks.

## Bonn lets East's old spies go free

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN



Wolf argued that he was patriotic servant of East

MARKUS WOLF, the East German spy master, and his thousands of agents are likely to escape police investigations and prison sentences thanks to a Constitutional Court ruling that seeks to close the chapter on the era of Cold War espionage.

The court has decided by five votes to three that it was unjust for the united Germany to imprison spies who operated out of East German territory, since they had been acting in accordance with the law of their state. The judgment —

reached after four years of deliberation and justified in an 80-page document — ensures that Wolf, once regarded as the model of John Le Carré's sinister Karla, need not serve out his six-year jail sentence for espionage.

He had not been jailed, pending the ruling. He had argued in his defence, and on behalf of his former agents, that he had merely been a patriotic servant of the East German state. Ten convicted East German spies appealed for a pardon yesterday hours after the

court's verdict. The issue of Germans who acted against West German interests, but in accordance with East German law, has dogged Bonn's attempts to make a final reckoning with the communist past.

Courts have found former communists guilty of only minor crimes or, as in the case of Erich Honecker, the former East German leader, freed them because of ill-health or old age. Most border guards who killed fugitives were convicted of murder, but were given light sentences.



Berlusconi: might be forced to sell stations

## Berlusconi pulls out of TV talks

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS  
IN ROME

SILVIO BERLUSCONI, the Italian media tycoon, yesterday pulled out of negotiations designed to forestall a referendum next month on concentration of television ownership.

The former Prime Minister's Forza Italia party and other political groups have been trying to find a legislative compromise that would stop the referendum taking place on June 11. Italians will be asked whether they want to revoke existing legislation on media ownership, paving the way for a new law that would probably oblige Signor Berlusconi to sell two of his three television stations.

He complained that the compromise mooted by the Democratic Party of the Left (PDS) and other parties of the Left and Centre would leave intact state ownership of the three channels of RAI, the public broadcasting corporation, while forcing him to sell off one of his channels at once and another within two years.

"Such a proposal would be unthinkable in a civilised country," Signor Berlusconi said. "It is as if Fiat or any other company had been ordered to reduce its productive capacity by a third and then by another third."

Signor Berlusconi has accused Italy's anti-corruption magistrates of trying to influence the referendum by requesting last weekend that he and some 20 other people be sent for trial on charges of alleged corruption of tax inspectors investigating the books of his Fininvest holding company.

## Isolated Karadzic hints at starting Bosnia peace talks

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT  
AND MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

RADOVAN KARADZIC, the Bosnian Serb leader, has indicated that he may be ready to begin peace talks, saying the plan put forward last year by the five-nation Contact Group is not very different from Serb proposals and the two positions could be "harmonised".

His statement comes as he faces increasing isolation from Serbia, believed to be close to recognising Bosnia-Herzegovina. Diplomats and peace mediators were wary last night, however, of being too optimistic about a real change of heart by the Bosnian Serbs.

Dr Karadzic was quoted by Bosnian Serb radio as saying: "We would like the Security Council to know that we are ready to treat the Contact Group's plan as the basis for the resumption of the peace process." One diplomatic source said: "We have to look at the wording of this very carefully. He uses the word 'treat' and what he needs at least to do is 'accept' the plan as a basis."

The Contact Group proposed dividing Bosnia and giving 41 per cent to the Serbs and 59 per cent to the federation of Muslims and Croats. Their plan was rejected last July by the Serbs, who hold 70 per cent of the country after more than three years of war.

"The real problem is not the 51-49 per cent split: the real issue is sovereign status for the Serbs," said a Bosnian Serb spokesman. The Contact Group believes recognition of

Bosnia by President Milosevic of Serbia would weaken Dr Karadzic and shorten the war. However, diplomats and peace negotiators who said on Monday that Mr Milosevic was ready to recognise the republic, were more cautious last night. "It's 90 per cent done but there remain some differences over the sanctions package," one diplomatic source said.

Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister, meanwhile linked the continued presence of United Nations peacekeeping forces in the former Yugoslavia to the Serbian recognition of Bosnia. He said of the campaign to persuade Belgrade to recognise Sarajevo: "If these latest efforts proved to be in vain, neither France nor its partners could for long maintain its peacekeepers."

The pressure on Dr Karadzic is being made even more intense because the armed Bosnian government army has launched increasingly successful assaults in different parts of Bosnia. Moreover, Serb troops are suffering from poor morale, shortage of food and a desperate lack of currency to cover their wages, according to Western intelligence sources yesterday.

In the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Orasje, in the north, the Serbs are known to be running out of artillery shells and are having to use tanks to maintain their defences.

CARTOONISTS &amp; WRITERS SYNDICATE



Moir on Bosnia in the Sydney Morning Herald

## Lung fungus left iceman gasping

FROM GILES WHITTALL  
IN LOS ANGELES

EUROPE'S 5,300-year-old "iceman" may have collapsed and died on a lonely Alpine pass because his lungs were assailed by a fungus.

A tiny sample of lung tissue from the iceman, discovered in 1991 preserved in ice near the Otztal valley in Austria, was sent to a Californian laboratory for DNA analysis. Scientists found traces of a fungus that could have left the iceman gasping for breath in what became his

tomb, 10,000ft above sea level near the Italian border.

The iceman, also known as Simlana man after a ridge near where he was found, and *Homo tyrolensis*, is the best-preserved Bronze Age corpse found in Europe.

Ever since two climbers stumbled on his legs emerging from a glacier, experts have argued over his age, the reason for his perilous final journey and the manner of his death. This latest finding by Dr Raul Cano, of the California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obis-

po, adds weight to theories that his body had already been weakened by disease.

A search for further evidence yielded a finger nail. Analysis of keratin levels suggested that the iceman was stricken by a chronic infectious illness four months before he died, scientists said last year.

The DNA pattern found in the lung tissue by Dr Cano bears a genetic resemblance to a modern fungus, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, which often attacks those ill with other diseases.

## Jobs take priority on Juppé agenda

FROM ADAM SAGE  
IN PARIS

PRESIDENT CHIRAC's first administration promised new jobs, pay rises and a cut in public deficits before European monetary union. Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister, said yesterday.

Giving details of policies aimed at restoring confidence to a nation battered by social division, M. Juppé, 49, said that the fight for jobs would be an overriding priority for his Gaullist-led Government. "The entire programme that I present today can be summed up by a single word: employment," he told the National Assembly.

Yet in an announcement largely inspired by M. Chirac's election manifesto, the Prime Minister also pledged a significant increase in the minimum wage and backed the principle of rises for private-sector workers. At the same time, he reaffirmed a commitment to European union that critics had cast doubt on during the presidential election campaign, telling deputies that France would be ready for the single currency by 1999.

The cut in public deficits required by the Maastricht treaty would be undertaken despite pledges that involve building houses and welfare reform, he said. There was no question of ending the policy of "franc fort", he added, in response to last week's rumours that M. Chirac might seek a devaluation to relaunch the economy.

At the heart of yesterday's announcement were a series of measures to relieve the huge tax burden on industry, driving a jobsless total that stands at 3,827,300. Under the proposals, companies who take on low-wage workers will be exonerated from paying social security contributions that are among the highest in Europe.

A promise to build 10,000 homes for the ever-increasing numbers of homeless is also likely to prove costly, as will commitments to increase the state pension and introduce a new child support allowance.

M. Juppé did not say how he intended to finance his programmes, although there is little doubt that difficult decisions lie ahead. M. Chirac indicated during the election campaign that VAT would probably have to rise.

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PAGE 2 -  
SECTION 2

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# China gives US ultimatum over Taiwanese visit

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

PEKING yesterday demanded that Washington should withdraw its visa for the President of Taiwan to visit the United States next month or face a serious deterioration in relations.

Qian Qichen, China's Foreign Minister, summoned J. Stapleton Roy, the US Ambassador, and accused the United States of "conspiring to create two Chinas" by allowing President Lee Teng-hui to visit his alma mater, Cornell University, to receive an honorary degree and deliver a speech.

The permission, granted by President Clinton at the weekend under pressure from the Republican-dominated Congress, reverses a policy of excluding senior Taiwan officials from the United States that began in 1979 when Washington recognised the present Chinese Government.

Although Winston Lord, the US Assistant Secretary of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, said in Hong Kong last week that such a "visitor's visa" given on a "strictly private basis" does not represent a change in policy, the decision to approve Mr Lee's visit marks a serious diplomatic defeat for Peking. How serious became clearer yesterday when Nicholas Burns, of the US State Department, refused to rule out future meetings between Mr Lee and members of Congress, on the ground that any contact would be "unofficial".

Peking has described the American move as "an extremely serious act of brazenly creating 'two Chinas', that damages China's sovereignty and undermines its cause for

peaceful reunification. Not only will Sino-US relations not develop, they may regress."

Relations are already so poor that when Mr Clinton met President Jiang Zemin this month in Moscow for ceremonies to mark the wartime victory over Germany, the two men did not speak.

Mr Clinton's U-turn, while reflecting American frustration over such issues as China's human rights record, arms sales to the Middle East and copyright piracy, also represents a pragmatic reassessment of economic and domestic political realities. Taiwan is America's fifth largest trading partner and is regarded by many in Congress and the White House as

his pleasure over Mr Clinton's decision, which he said would improve relations between the two countries. The American Chamber of Commerce in Taipei, the Taiwanese capital, also hailed the news.

Mr Clinton's decision to admit Mr Lee, and effectively to abandon his previous strategy of trying to develop a strong relationship with Peking, has won him bipartisan congressional praise.

Jesse Helms, the Republican chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said Mr Lee was "a bold democratic reformer and refusing him entry would have been an insult".

Earlier this month the Senate had approved by 97-1 a non-binding resolution urging Mr Clinton to reconsider his refusal to grant Mr Lee a visa. "It's a reward for President Lee's efforts to move that country towards democracy," said Frank Murkowski, a Republican senator. Paul Simon, a Democratic Senator, said he wanted the United States to maintain good relations with China, "but our policy shouldn't be dictated by another country".

China yesterday stepped up pressure on the pro-democracy movement before next month's sixth anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre, by arresting another dissident.

Jiang Qisheng, 47, who has signed two petitions calling for greater democracy, was detained, according to his wife. Twelve dissidents are known to have been arrested or to have disappeared in the past week. (AFP)



Qian: accused America of creating two Chinas

having made great strides towards democracy. This contrasts with Peking's record where, in the past week alone, another crackdown has been carried out on pro-democracy dissidents.

Yesterday Mr Lee expressed



A Cambodian Buddhist monk sprinkles holy water on a family as he walks past them in Phnom Penh yesterday. About 450 monks and 40 other walkers are taking part in a peace march through Cambodia and Vietnam. The event began in Auschwitz last month and ends in Hiroshima in August

## Indian parties fight to get hands on symbol

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA'S two Congress parties, both claiming to be the real one, are fighting for possession of the country's most famous political symbol, the hand.

The stakes are high: the winner will be de facto heir to more than a century of history and decades of political power since independence in 1947. The

newly formed breakaway Congress party headed by N. D. Tiwari, a veteran politician from Uttar Pradesh, and Arjun Singh, a former Cabinet minister, is taking legal advice before asking the Election Commission to allocate the symbol of the hand.

With widespread illiteracy, all parties are allocated symbols for use at polling booths and in election campaigns. They

appear on ballot papers, and illiterate voters are allowed to vote with a thumbprint.

For years the hand has been instantly identifiable across India as the symbol of the Congress party. That headed by P. V. Narasimha Rao, the Prime Minister, will fight to keep it, but the Election Commission may ban either side from using it. That would boost the claim of the rebels that

they are the real thing. The Congress (Tiwar) party argues that the Election Commission allocated the hand to the Congress (I) party — the I stands for Indira, as in Indira Gandhi, the former Prime Minister. The "I" was officially dropped from the name of Mr Rao's party two years ago because it was regarded as redundant. The breakaway Congress party officially calls itself Congress (I).



## Peking tackled on UN women's venue

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE, DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE United Nations may have to find a new venue for its World Conference on Women, due to be held in Peking in September, unless the Chinese Government relents in trying to sideline the aid agencies that want to attend. Oxfam said yesterday.

Peking has ordered that the conference of non-governmental organisations (NGOs), to be attended by more than 20,000 people, must be held at Huairou, 35 miles from the Chinese capital, making it almost impossible for the agencies to play their traditional role of lobbying at the UN event. The NGO Forum has given the Chinese and the

UN until today to "provide an acceptable alternative", said Eugenio Piza-Lopez, a senior policy adviser to Oxfam.

Hillary Clinton is due to attend the main conference but has reportedly said that she is not sure where it will be held and is no longer sure whether she will go.

The aid agencies are furious at being relegated to Huairou because only one public bus connects the town with Peking and the journey takes an hour and a half. The groups are also worried about telecommunications and living conditions for their forum. There are also no facilities for the disabled.

## Congress sharpens axe for aid cuts

FROM IAN BIDDLE IN WASHINGTON

REPUBLICANS controlling the US Congress yesterday turned their knives on a foreign aid budget that most Americans think is bigger than it really is. They also want to eliminate three foreign affairs agencies and intervene in three difficult areas of the Clinton Administration's foreign policy.

In an effort to blunt the Republican offensive, Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, wrote to President Clinton urging him to veto any Bill that reduces aid or impinges on foreign policy. He said that any such proposal would be "an extraordinary assault on the President's constitutional authority", which would also undermine American leadership in the world.

White House officials said Mr Clinton shares Mr Christopher's concerns, but wants to see the final Bill before deciding whether to use his veto.

At issue are the fundamentally opposing views of Republicans and Democrats over foreign affairs. Overseas aid, which is the least popular item of government spending among voters, lies at the heart of the problem. Jesse Helms, the Republican chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, is committed to ending to what he regards as the squandering of money abroad with nothing to show for it. He once said: "American taxpayers have spent two trillion dollars on aid programmes, much of that going down foreign rat-holes."

In fact, foreign aid consumes only 1 per cent of the federal budget: \$17.5 billion (£11 billion) this year. That is not the public perception, however. A poll by the University of Maryland found that respondents estimated that 18 per cent of the budget was allocated and that 8 per cent would be more appropriate.

Republicans want to cut foreign aid to more than 100 countries by as much as 15 per cent. Their Bill would abolish the Agency for International Development, the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the United States Information Agency. Broadcasting by the Voice of America would be substantially reduced.

The Bill is also intended to reverse Mr Clinton's decision to send refugees back to Cuba; to cut aid to Russia if it sells nuclear reactors to Iran; and to ban any normalisation of relations with Vietnam until Hanoi accounts for the 1,600 US servicemen still missing after the Vietnam War.

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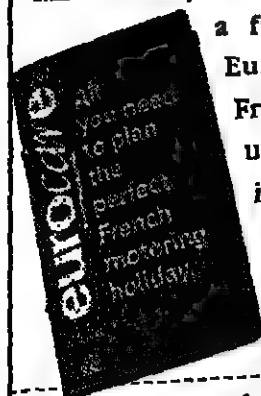
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TWA FOR GREAT LOW FARES TO THE USA TURN TO PAGE 2 SECTION 2



The tuxedo, a constant classic

# Following suit in top hat and trousers



ABOVE: Black/white striped straw top hat with black and white hat pins, to order, Emma Hill, 134 Lots Rd, London SW10; (0171-351 4333). Grey double-breasted pinstripe jacket, £920, matching trousers with turn-ups, £370, Yves Saint Laurent, Rive Gauche, 135 New Bond St, London W1.

CENTRE: Black straw top hat, to order, Catherine Walker for The Chelsea Design Company, 65 Sydney St, London SW3; (0171-352 4626). Black double-breasted smoking jacket with satin lapels, £960, matching trousers with satin side stripes, £445, Yves Saint Laurent, as above. Black patent shoes, £55, Bertie, 36 South Molton St, London W1 and branches nationwide (0171-935 2002).

FAR LEFT: Ivory felt top hat with grosgrain bow, £245 approx, Frederick Fox, Harrods, London SW1; Harvey Nichols, London SW1. Ivory satin single-breasted trouser suit and matching halterneck waistcoat, £845, Dolce & Gabbana, Browns, 23-27 South Molton St, London W1.

LEFT: Ivory mini top hat with chiffon bow and fine veil, £75, to order, Stephen Jones (0171-734 9666). White crêpe double-breasted jacket, £155; matching trousers, £95, Liz Claiborne, Selfridges, Oxford St, London W1; Dickens & Jones, Regent St, London W1; Rackhams, 35 Temple Row, Birmingham; Kendalls, Deansgate, Manchester.

Photographs by JONATHAN BOOKALLIL. Hair by Gordon Pinder. Make-up by Mandy Winrow.

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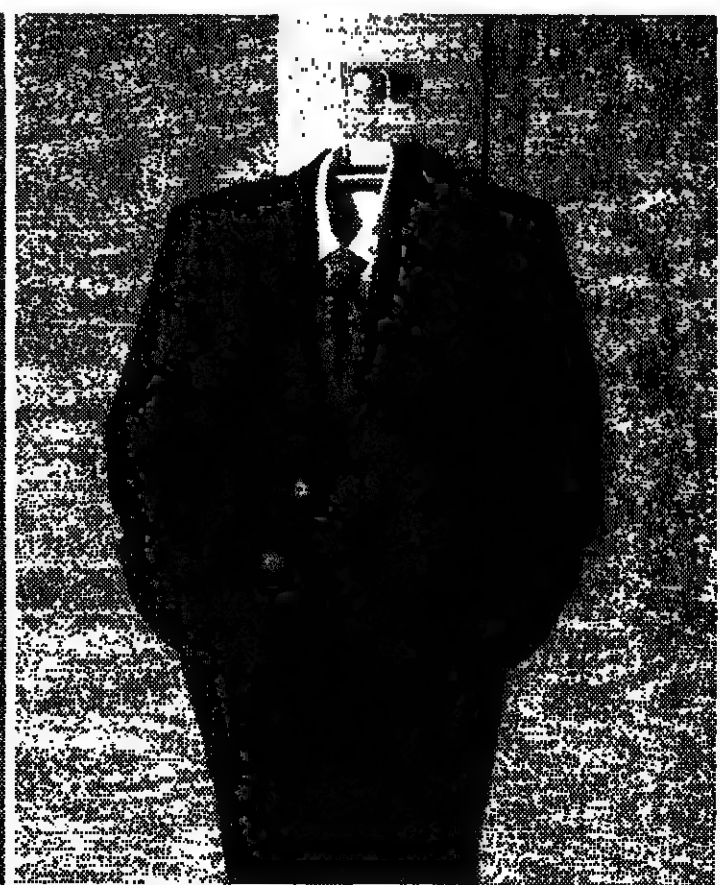
## WOMEN

IF YOU wear this summer's gossamer-fine fabrics, should you feature or disguise the underpinnings? Eyecatching cover-ups work well when they are cut on the generous side, looking like a two-piece for the beach. Prada has bras at £113 and briefs at £122 at its Sloane Street store. Otherwise, an opaque, seamless, skin-toned foundation should be worn. Warner's has introduced Not So Innocent Nudes — bodies, briefs and bras in three skin tones: from £7 for a brief to £15 for a bra, at Fenwick's of New Bond Street. Sock Shops also have a "nude" underwear range from £5.99 for briefs.

TO CELEBRATE its new membership of the Guild of Master Craftsmen, Wardrobe is holding a party at 3 Grosvenor Street, London W1, tomorrow at 6pm. The first six Times readers to phone 0171-629 7044 can join in. Guests will receive a pair of £12.99 Girardi tights.

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With so much talk about the return of ladylike looks, it seems that summer the white or ivory trouser suit (think Robert Redford as the Great Gatsby) is a favourite with designers as diverse as Martine Sitbon, Dolce & Gabbana, Ralph Lauren, Dries van Noten, Sonia Rykiel, Helmut Lang, Jil Sander, Max Mara and Giorgio Armani. On first sight



Fashion

IAIN R. WEBB

there is little else on offer this summer. But fashion is a business and designers always cover their backs. The flip side to this utterly feminine fashion story is an androgynous take on men's tailoring. In complete contrast to the flirtatious mood of the skimpy shifts, the chic little dress-and-jacket suits and the cute cardigans, this excursion into the menswear arena is all about a stark silhouette. Invariably monochromatic (the only colours which creep in are still a touch sombre — charcoal grey and midnight blue), the look evokes memories of old black and white movies: at Dolce & Gabbana the models, in their strictly tailored black tuxedo jackets and matching Oxford bags, wing-collared white shirts and black ties (held in place with silver and diamond tie-clips) looked like Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton. Without shirt and tie, the streamlined suit against bare skin is somewhat more inviting.

Such an immaculate image requires precision tailoring. This is one area of fashion where the higher echelon designers have it completely sewn up. Unfortunately, it is rare to find quality tailoring with rock-bottom price tags. However, with the summer

sales looming, such a luxury can become a wise buy. A perfectly tailored black trouser suit will last a lifetime. This summer the white or ivory trouser suit (think Robert Redford as the Great Gatsby) is a favourite with designers as diverse as Martine Sitbon, Dolce & Gabbana, Ralph Lauren, Dries van Noten, Sonia Rykiel, Helmut Lang, Jil Sander, Max Mara and Giorgio Armani. On first sight

it may appear a frivolous purchase, but there are now few seasons which pass without a pale trouser suit featuring somewhere on the catwalks. It seems certain to become a constant classic and, cleaning bills aside, such an investment will undoubtedly prove money well spent.

One designer whose impeccable tailoring cannot be faulted is Yves Saint Laurent. There are few who can match his enduring rigour when it comes to shaping the line of a shoulder or cutting a back seam to curve with the body, not fight against it. This season Saint Laurent's le

smoking tuxedo suit, which is now as acceptable worn during daylight hours as it is seen after dark, is still a wonder to behold and a joy to wear. Alternatively, his gangster-style, grey chalk-stripe trouser suit, if a little less glossy, makes a sharp option.

For those who do not want to dress up like a former First Lady or a Hitchcock heroine, these slick suits are a perfect choice for smart social outings. Even Royal Ascot. Although there is a popular belief that any woman striding through Ascot's hallowed gates wearing trousers will be, if not turned on her heels, at the very least frowned upon. St James's Palace maintains that women have been allowed to wear trousers for years. The only ruling is that the trousers must be part of a formal suit which matches top and bottom and, naturally, the wearer must not forget a hat.

A top hat completes the outfit with a certain flair and finesse. Worn at a jaunty angle (it should tilt forwards on the head with a sideways slant) and trimmed with all manner of veiling, hat pins, feathers and bows, it is a far cry from the masculine image one might expect.

The final touches, to dispel any notion that such a bold look is for men only, are a pair of high-heeled strappy shoes and a flash of glossy red nail varnish on fingers and toes.

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The wife who was jailed for lying about her husband's car crash was obeying an age-old maternal instinct to protect her brood — and her partner

CONNOISSEURS of social cliché have had a wonderful few days following the case of David and Patricia Whitehead and their bruising brush with justice. The Whiteheads score so many stereotypical Brownie points you get quite dizzy: churchgoers, running an office in a commuter village, he working at a hospital, she the Akela of the local Cub pack and mother of three angelic little boys: the car accident only happened because he was caring for his old parents to an Isle of Wight ferry. Hard to get more respectable.

Moreover, it was a motorcycle he collided with (bikers score pretty low on the middle-England indignation scale) and it was widely, and not quite accurately, reported that nobody was hurt and that it was nobody's fault. In fact the biker got a nasty ankle, and Mr Whitehead reportedly admitted: "I just didn't see him." Then he went home and

## Crazy women who stand by their men

persuaded his wife to say she was driving. So a judge (another figure currently scoring low in public estimation) packed them off to prison without a thought for their small children.

The nation seethed loudly all weekend, culminating in the clarion call from The Sun for the judge himself to be locked up. On Monday three appeal judges set Mrs Whitehead free. Lord Justice Swinton Thomas made some stern noises about perverting the course of justice, but his heart clearly wasn't in it. Not with nice, gentle Mrs Whitehead thanking him politely for the community service order. He gently replied: "You are very welcome," which says it for us all. It was a silly decision to jail her.

But talking of silly decisions, what woman does not secretly empathise with the wife's original dilemma? This is a good citizen: before she was sent down she said: "We knew lying to the police was very wrong and it is humiliating. I feel so ashamed and it is against everything I believe in and everything I teach my kids and my Cub Scouts."

So why on earth did she go along with her husband's harebrained, hopeless lie? She wasn't even in the car, and there were several witnesses. His fear of losing his licence was apparently unfounded; even if he



LIBBY PURVES

had, there is a perfectly good railway station in Brockenhurst. The fear of losing his job can only have been a symptom of shock. At such a moment a wife's logical role is to talk the man down, brace him up, and help him to do the George Washington bit when the police arrive.

But she didn't. She lived a lie for 17 terrible days. Terrible, because even though they did not expect prison no mother of young children enjoys being on the wrong side of the law. In that tender maternal phase, the last thing you want is to be an

outcast: you feel a very deep need to have society on your side. You are the opposite of a rebel. She must have hated every minute.

YET SHE did it, and she was not the first. Other women have told the same lie, or climbed across to the driving-seat after an accident when their men have been drinking. Countless wives and girlfriends have lied about their menfolk's violence ("I walked into a door"), about their drinking, even their abuse of the children. Police are familiar with the frustration of cases in which the only witness will not testify as to what really happened to the baby, or how the house caught fire. The law recognises the

tendency by allowing wives not to testify against husbands; but some, like Mrs Whitehead, take it further and produce alibis. We are like the chilling perjured heroine in *Witness for the Prosecution*, or E.M. Forster when he said that given a choice between betraying his country or his friend he hoped he would betray his country. Our loyalty is frighteningly complete.

It can't just be the desire to keep our breadwinner at liberty; not these days. It must be a warped maternal urge. We want at all costs to protect all our brood of chicks, and automatically include the six-foot-two one with the big feet and stubby chin. So we abandon logic and morality and end up doing something crazy, humiliatingly wrong. You really mustn't ask us, chaps. It isn't fair. Besides, after a bit of thinking over the Whitehead case, we might come to our senses and manage to say no.

## 'The over forties want to be allowed to have sex lives too'

Julia Llewellyn Smith meets two very different exponents of the art of the best-selling romantic novel

Spencer Huntington has white-blond hair, an hourglass figure and a perfect face. She lives in uptown Miami; her ancestors came over on the Mayflower. Her lover, David Delgado, is a dashing, dark policeman, and together they investigate the murder of her husband, Danny.

True Valour is a once attractive housewife from Hampshire, fighting middle age. Her lover is her stepdaughter's husband, Jamie. They meet in seedy London hotels and agonise over their deviousness.

Which of these women do you feel closest to? Which would you rather read about? Harlequin Mills & Boon hopes you will go for sexy Spencer.

Heroin of *Slow Burn*, the 78th novel by Heather Graham Pozzessere, former model, actress and bartender, now the dominatrix of American romance, who attracts nine-hour queues for her autograph.

Macmillan is sure that British readers will warm to village stalwart True, heroine of *Perfect Love* by Elizabeth Buchan, a former publisher and 1994's Romantic Novelist of the Year for her book *Consider the Lily*, a compulsive story of a flat-chested orphan who marries a man who is in love with her cousin and lost his virginity to an Arab boy.

Buchan was influenced by Jane Austen, the Brontës and Daphne du Maurier. Today, she is instantly compared to Joanna Trollope. Buchan is better, but both write about characters from that recognisable world of Agas and church flower arranging. They have humpy bodies and awkward teenagers and buy their knickers in Marks &

Spencer. They deceive their husbands and discover, in the words of Thomas Hardy, that true love can only grow in "the interstices of a harsh, prosaic reality."

Such books are the antithesis of the sex-and-shopping bookbusters of the Eighties. According to Suzanne Rabinowitz, *Booklist* editor, "they are wanted in a dream. A desire for a more 'wiser' reader, for novels that reflect the world's complicated lives."

"This is the genre that is going to last," says Ms Rabinowitz. "Buchan is writing about a world in which everything is fine on the surface and then something changes in



British star: romantic novelist of the year Elizabeth Buchan's women have humpy bodies and awkward teenagers, buy their knickers in Marks & Spencer and deceive their husbands

your life, but it's not a man dashing in on a white horse. *Wendy's* God, this could happen to me."

It is hard to imagine Barbara Cartland heroine sorting through a laundry basket, as True does, and being depressed by her stepdaughter's wispy knickers. Romance, surely, should be about escapism, about beautiful young virgins

taming world-weary rakes. Ever since 1909 Mills & Boon has been charming out hundreds of such stories every month. Women's romance makes up 44 per cent of the world's fiction market: in 1993 250 million M&B romances were sold in 100 countries. "I asked a Japanese publisher why our books were so successful in their country, which has a completely different

culture," says Linda Fildew, a senior editor. "She said that Japanese men weren't very expressive, that they didn't acknowledge birthdays, and so women loved to fantasise about romantic heroes sweeping them off their feet."

But even here, the times are changing. Sex slipped its way between the fitness covers several years ago and guidelines warn the 4,000 hopefuls

who submit manuscripts each year—that heroines must be "established in an interesting career".

Heather Graham Pozzessere, dressed in red mini-skirt and jacket with matching talons, agrees that her readers would feel betrayed if she wrote a "tea and crumpets book". "Sex sells," she says. "In the past 20 years the world has changed so drastically. You can't have a hero with lots of experience because of AIDS. And our readers are the baby boomers who want to read about people their own age."

Buchan, in velvet headband, agrees that the over-forties want to feel they are allowed sex lives. Her sex scenes are elliptical, her dustjackets are tastefully pastel. "You could give them to your grandmother and she wouldn't be ashamed to put them on her shelves, which she would be with Julie Burchill," Graham Pozzessere often poses for her covers herself, in medieval wench or Southern Belle gear, along with her pony-tailed husband, Dennis, who is her business manager.

*Slow Burn* (subheading "Together They Sizzled") and a perfectly enjoyable yarn is her first novel for Mira, a new M&B imprint which accommodates longer novels. These books, Ms Fildew tells me happily, will be sold in Dillons and Waterstones as opposed to the traditional M&B flogging

ground of CTNs (confectioners, tobacconists, newsagents), where novels are said to have a shelf-life longer than milk, but shorter than yoghurt.

Neither Graham Pozzessere nor Buchan is tulle-draped and drenched in Le Jardin. "Nothing about writing is what I envisaged it to be," says Graham Pozzessere, mother of five. "You start out because you love to do it, you end up asking 'What's my print run? How's it going to be displayed?' She spends as much time promoting as writing and is in close consultation with her fellow novelists on such questions as "dialogue, narrative, and what do you do when you're on publicity tour and you lose your luggage". At trade fairs they hand out

sweeties with her name printed on them. "My biggest excitement was when they started stocking my books in the grocery store."

Meanwhile Buchan saw *Consider the Lily* being given away free with every jar of Oil of Ulay sold in Boots in the run-up to Mother's Day. "It was wonderful," she says. "Trillions more people read it than would have done otherwise." I ask her what her most romantic moment was and she is taken aback. One, she says eventually, was going to Glyndebourne on the coldest, windiest night of last year with Benji, her husband of 23 years. The other was when she won the romantic novel prize. "I've never been kissed so much in my life."



American star: Heather Graham Pozzessere boosts her sales by posing with her husband on the cover of her novels



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# Giving way to the IRA over arms

Paul Bew says the Unionist voice is not being heard

For all the inevitable air of pantomime, Sir Patrick Mayhew's Washington meeting with Gerry Adams is probably the only way to prevent a public relations disaster. It may very well be that the idea of sending the Secretary of State at all is based on an overestimation of the purely economic value of this conference on investment, but once the decision to send Sir Patrick was taken, the meeting with the Sinn Féin president was inevitable.

So far, American economic commitment to Northern Ireland has been disappointing in real terms: analogies with the Marshall aid package are ridiculous. The current level of American aid to Northern Ireland annually barely outstrips the gifts of rich individuals to universities in the Irish Republic. If there is a dividend, it is more likely to be political: the British Government will hope, against hope, that the Adams-Mayhew meeting will help to initiate meaningful discussions about arms between Michael Ancram and Martin McGuinness.

More worryingly, the Washington conference may be used as a platform for Dublin's strident policy of economic "harmonisation".

London and Dublin have changed their tune

It is only fair to add that the other side has changed its tune too. There is some evidence of a melting of hard-core intransigent republican ideology in Northern Ireland. When Jim Gibney, a senior republican, talks of coming to terms with the "positive aspects" of the Britishness of the Unionists, we are entering new territory. At the weekend, Mr Gibney talked of a need for a new language of compromise. A united Ireland remained his "preferred option", but he added, "there are other options. We will examine them carefully... We will consider any political model designed to accommodate the special characteristics of the Irish people which history has handed down to us."

This is very encouraging for those who wish to see a compromise in Northern Ireland. But the British Government's lack of concern for the majority opinion in the province is also a rather worrying feature of the present situation. For example, *Omnibus*, the official journal of the Northern Ireland Office Information Service, recently asked President Clinton this striking question: "The joint framework document has been launched, and the responses are broadly welcoming, how do you feel about it?" The posing of the question in this way amounts to a casual dismissal of the views, however ill-founded, of Northern Ireland's 13 Unionist MPs. In his last two major interventions at the Dublin Forum — particularly on the vexed matter of the territorial claim — Mr Bruton has moved to meet some Unionist concern. It is time the British Government took a leaf from his book.

The author is professor of Irish Politics at Queen's University, Belfast.

There will have to be a

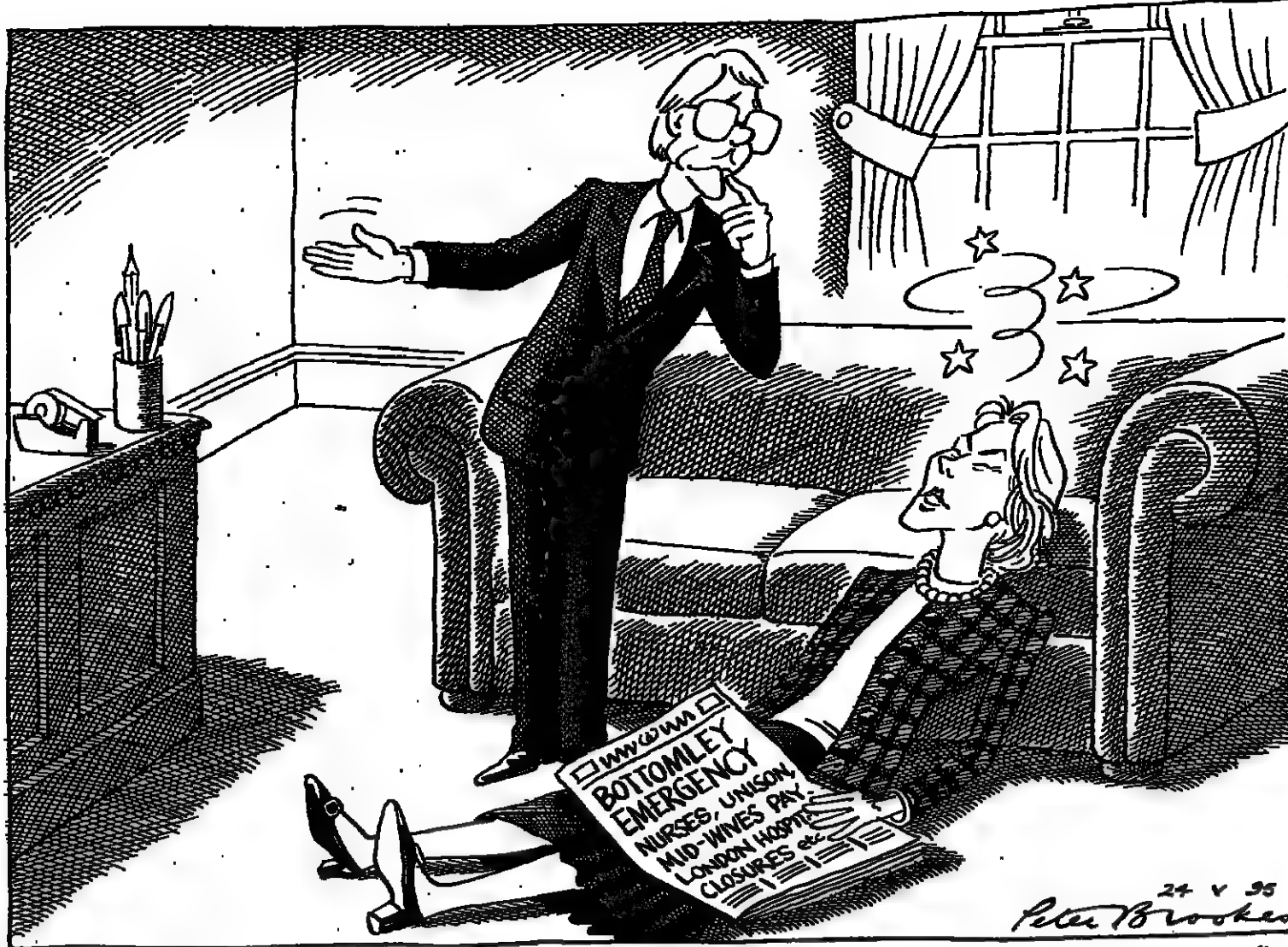
verification of the handing over of arms. As I have said publicly, there is little point in attempting to bring people into political dialogue on the basis of giving it a try and if it does not work returning to the bomb and the bullet... it has to be permanent and there must be evidence of it. There will obviously have to be a precise means of establishing the commitment to use exclusively peaceful methods, and that obviously has to be decided and agreed by both Governments. There can be no participation by Sinn Féin in political discussions with either Government until they have made a firm commitment that violence has ended."

These speeches clearly demonstrate the falsity of the claim made by republicans — and some fellow travellers in Fianna Fail — that the handing over of arms was not raised before the ceasefire. But they also show slippage by both Governments in two areas: ministers, including Sir Patrick Mayhew, have met Sinn Féin before decommitment, and many observers believe that a symbolic surrender of some arms will satisfy both Governments.

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## DORRELL'S LAW

A policy made from fear, favour and false philosophy

Stephen Dorrell's proposals on media ownership display every sign of the muddle, weakness and defeatism that are this Conservative Government's best-known trademarks. The long-awaited paper was a triumph for lobbyists from TV and newspaper groups which want to buy and sell one another: it was a triumph for the short-term fixers within the Tory party who think that paternalism and the free market can be cooked up to produce the instant benefits of both. But it was a special, unexpected bonus for the left wing of the Labour Party which can now anticipate that Tony Blair will be at least as interventionist and anti-competitive.

Indeed, it seemed yesterday as though Mr Dorrell himself was anticipating a Blair government. Whenever John Major eventually falls from office, his last most influential ministers will be those who have bequeathed policies which Labour can carry out in their place. The Secretary of State for National Heritage set out proposals yesterday which, from the mouth of a Labour minister, would delight a union conference — and provoke justified indignation among the same free enterprise Tories who somehow passed these proposals in Cabinet subcommittee two weeks ago. In destroying any incentive for creative media businesses to make big investments, take huge risks and grow, his plans would not have shamed the most suspicious socialists of our time.

Mr Dorrell, who in the days when he was anyone's darling at all was a darling of the Tory left, has won a remarkable victory over the wealth-creating philosophy of the party which brought him to power. Despite the objections of senior colleagues, he has won approval for measures that would restrict media companies to an eventual 10 per cent of the total media market: and he has won the establishment of a government-appointed regulator to deem whether an offending company's existing media holdings are in the public interest or against it.

The powers proposed for this regulator are of an almost unprecedented nature. If there were media companies in Britain with the type of monopoly once enjoyed in America by Standard Oil and the Bell telephone company, it could be reasonable to set up systems to break up holdings and enforce competition. If the concern were to restrict anti-competitive media mergers,

there is already machinery in place and this might be strengthened. But Mr Dorrell's proposal is that existing media portfolios, none of them even close to a monopoly and many of them built up from nothing or from one-time loss-making failures, should be put up for the regulator's judgment.

There is no basis in business philosophy for this. The proposals would set a prior ceiling for a growing group's share of a market. In the newspaper sector, for example, the result would be to reward groups whose policy is one of high prices and low circulations. *The Times* has an interest here which has to be declared. Three years ago this newspaper was at the end of a long period of low circulation and low revenues, and had little prospect of a secure financial future. Today, thanks substantially to risk-taking by its owners, *The Times* enjoys an almost doubled circulation and is closer to financial security than at any time for decades. Prices overall are lower: the market is larger; national declines in readership have been reversed.

It is hard to believe that, had Dorrell's laws been in force, there would have been the incentive to risk so much for *The Times*. Nor would there have been the incentive to build the BSkyB satellite broadcasting system if its size was to be limited to 20 per cent of its market and its existence put under the control of competitors who can effect every participant's market share by their own price rises or poor performance.

The classic dangers of media monopoly are high prices, lack of consumer choice and a narrowing of political diversity. That is precisely what Mr Dorrell would achieve if he were ever allowed to enact his proposals. Prices would rise when media proprietors realised the penalties of success. Choice would be diminished when newspaper titles with little hope of financial success were starved of investment or closed.

It is hard to fathom what mixture of fear, favour and misplaced philosophy has motivated Mr Dorrell over the past few months. Perhaps it will all be quickly seen as a mistake: there are escape clauses for Mr Major amid the bureaucratic verbiage. Perhaps he will take one of them — before Mr Blair shows himself as the party leader more favourable to competition, free enterprise and creative business.

## DUMA DEMOCRACY

It matters more to get the Russian system right than overnight

President Yeltsin's veto of the Duma's draft election law makes it more likely that the parliamentary elections scheduled for December will be delayed. To supporters of reform at home and abroad this sends a dangerous signal. Russia's commitment to unfamiliar democratic procedures is tenuous enough; bickering over the constitution can only undermine confidence that the post-Communist system is workable, and increase the temptation of those looking for a return to authoritarianism to scrap the elections altogether. In fact, the President's veto has good grounds. The present law and the Duma draft revision are manifestly inequitable. Neither would lead to an outcome properly reflecting the people's will. Far better to risk postponing the elections than proceed with an election on a flawed basis.

At issue is the proportion of deputies elected by direct constituency ballot compared with the numbers chosen from party lists. Half the 450 members of the present Duma have been chosen on one basis and half on the other, and the Lower House argues that the new election law should leave this ratio as it is. The Upper House, the Federation Council, wants a significant change, providing for 300 deputies to be elected from individual constituencies and only 150 on a list system.

In the present inchoate state of party politics in Russia, a list system gives undue influence to fringe parties. This was alarmingly clear last time round, when Vladimir Zhirinovskiy brought dozens of Liberal

Democratic Party members into the Duma on his extremist coat-tails — few of whom would have stood a chance in a contested constituency ballot. The list system also skews the outcome in the provinces, where party politics is almost unknown. Indeed in Kamchatka, the Far East peninsula as large as France, the 16 parties represented have a total membership of 146 voters. To reduce the list representation would benefit the centre and force deputies to band together into fewer and more coherent groups.

This outcome, a desirable objective for any fledgling democracy, is precisely what makes Mr Yeltsin's veto suspect in the eyes of many Russians. For the party that would benefit most would be the quantity-named new centre party Russia is Our Home, headed by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Prime Minister, and committed to supporting Mr Yeltsin.

Mr Yeltsin's veto will now lead to back-room bargaining. The outcome matters, not only to the balance of power between the executive and the legislative organs, but because the December parliamentary elections will set the framework for next year's presidential contest. Mr Yeltsin should stick to his veto, but he can make concessions to get his way — such as dropping his opposition to a Duma proposal that government employees must resign before standing for election. Bargaining cannot go on long: a new law must be passed by August if the parliamentary timetable is to be kept. But that is less important than getting the details right.

## SELLOTAPE, AIR HOSTESS

Old surgical arts are not made obsolete by new technology

In spite of the continual advances of medical technology and drugs, medicine is never going to become an exact science. It is always going to be a humane art somewhere between fly-fishing and weather-forecasting.

The do-it-yourself operation conducted by two British flying doctors in a jumbo jet is a reminder that skill and imagination still count for as much in the surgery as state-of-the-art tools and increasingly vast expense. Yesterday their patient, Paula Dixon, was recovering from her emergency operation for a punctured lung at 35,000 feet. Luckily for her, Angus Wallace, professor of accident surgery at Nottingham University Hospital, and Dr Tom Wong, senior houseman at Stracathro Hospital near Brechin, were on her flight from Hong Kong to answer when the emergency call came over the Tannoy for a doctor on board.

They had only the British Airways first-aid kit. So they improvised the tools of their trade from a coathanger. Sellotape and Evian water, with brandy to sterilise the coathanger. Dr Wong held the incision open with a knife and fork, while Professor Wallace probed the coathanger with tube from an oxygen mask attached towards an air pocket that had built up outside Mrs Dixon's lung. And so they saved her life.

Not all conditions would respond to such Boy Scout surgery. It would be madness to attempt a liver transplant in mid-air with scissors and spoon and Sellotape. But the founding fathers of medicine, from the ancient Greeks and Romans and the barber-surgeons of the medieval battlefield to the great Victorian systematisers and the modern clinical scientists in their high-tech laboratories would have recognised their fundamental principle: to do the best possible to save life with the tools available.

Most advances in surgery, from anaesthetics to sterilisation, have been made in emergency theatres. In spite of the incredible sophistication of modern techniques, skill, daring and lateral thinking remain essential qualities for the surgery. In emergency, doing what must be done to save life is the only rule that matters. Mrs Dixon is lucky she was not on an American aircraft. For American doctors might well have been frightened off their duty in such conditions for fear of the huge damages if anything went wrong. The other passengers and crew on the flight witnessed a dramatic example of the first principles of a cool head and steady hand. And after using the brandy to sterilise his coathanger, Professor Wallace may be excused for drinking the rest of it.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### Lady Thatcher's latest broadside at troubled Tories

From Mrs Edwina Currie, MP for Derbyshire South (Conservative)

Sir, Baroness Thatcher has, it appears (reports, May 22), called for a revision of the treaties governing Britain's political links with the rest of Europe. We should seek, she says, a recast relationship with the rest of the Community, allowing France and Germany to set up a hardcore Union without British membership but leaving our trading links intact.

This is revisionism with a vengeance and is unrealistic to the point of being totally dotty.

It fails to take account of the world as it is, not as we might wish it to be. It is fifty years or more since the UK was in a position to tell other countries what to do, let alone those strong, wealthy and united neighbours on the other side of the Channel. It is over thirty years since we recognised that trading links were not enough: isolated, we were losing influence and in danger of being sidelined in a changing world.

Her plans are also deeply tactically. As the Prime Minister has already concluded, if we march into the 1996 negotiating chamber armed with irreducible demands we will find others have them too — the abandonment of our hated opt-outs on the single currency and social chapter for a start.

She adds that if other countries resist, we should pursue "every measure of obstruction and disruption open to us" unless Britain's interests were recognised.

What a depressing picture: handbags everywhere, producing only pursed lips and greater determination across the table. I doubt if the electorate would find it an edifying spectacle either. They above all know that our future lies in Europe and not, as we once believed, exclusively outside.

Britain's interests are not in terminal conflict with those of the rest of Europe. That is Margaret Thatcher's mistake. It is instead greatly to our benefit to be an active player, and to

our partners' to take note of the common sense we have to offer.

Nobody will listen, however, if the British appear bent on rewriting the fundamentals of the original treaties from a standpoint of implacable, pointless and outdated hostility.

Yours sincerely,  
EDWINA CURRIE,  
(Chairman elect,  
Conservative Group for Europe,  
House of Commons,  
May 22.

From Sir Frederic Bennett

Sir, With the near certainty of another electoral setback for HMG at Perth and Kinross, with yet another soon inevitable at Littleborough and Saddleworth, renewed calls can be expected from near-desperate Tory MPs to replace John Major and/or to reshuffle Ministers who are especially out of favour.

It is thus pertinent to recall that in 1992, after over a decade of Conservative government under an outstanding PM — but, towards the end of her rule, an increasingly unpopular one — there already existed a deep and widespread feeling in the country that it was "time for a change".

Yet in 1992 the many electors not yet ready to vote Labour (no longer "unelectable") felt that the desired "change" could be achieved by voting for a totally new Tory leadership, that of the moderate, likeable John Major, who was so utterly different from Margaret Thatcher. To talk now of changing the Tory leadership again, less than a couple of years before the next election, or to think that a reshuffle will cause the Tory sun to shine again, is nonsensical.

Although John Major's motivation may be highly creditable, his idea of fighting the next election on a populist "please everyone" platform in order to bring disillusioned Tories back into the fold could be highly counter-productive. Among their demands will be the return of capital punishment, re-

peal of the extension of VAT on domestic fuel, and at the very least a dilution of our ties with the European Union.

I doubt whether the Prime Minister will feel able to give his assent on any of these points.

Yours faithfully,  
FREDERIC BENNETT  
(Conservative MP for Reading North,  
1951-55; Torquay, 1955-74;  
Torquay, 1974-87),  
4 Hale Court,  
Lincoln's Inn, WC2,  
May 22.

From Mr A. R. F. Carter

Sir, The fruits of the Thatcher revolution lie deeply embedded within the new generation of voters.

My French A-level class was recently called upon to translate the word "shop steward". Out of thirteen pupils aged 17 or 18 only two, by the evidence of their translation, revealed any understanding of what a shop steward was, or what he (or she) did.

Will Mr Blair's New Labour Party have to begin a period of re-education, or is this ignorance, unthinkable fifteen years ago, something else for which he must (either secretly or openly) also thank our former Prime Minister?

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD CARTER,  
32 The Poles,  
Upchurch,  
Sittingbourne, Kent,  
May 18.

From Mr Piers Eley

Sir, Other Conservative MPs/peers, have been deprived of the Whip. Is it not time that Lady Thatcher lost her handbag?

Yours faithfully,  
PIERS ELEY,  
35 Montague Road,  
Richmond, Surrey,  
May 22.

### Democracy in Africa

From Mr Michael Jolliffe

Sir, May 24 is the second anniversary of the independence of Africa's youngest nation, Eritrea. Its people endured 30 years of hardship and repression in their efforts to secure the right to self-determination during a struggle which was often little reported in the West, probably because there were few great power interests at stake. In the past two years, western media attention has tended to focus even less on Eritrea, perhaps because since independence it has been the most peaceful and stable country in the Horn of Africa.

In spite of the noble intention, the efforts to "restore hope" in Somalia through international intervention to encourage a return to political, social and economic stability met with only very limited success. Aid donors in the West should perhaps give greater thought to providing assistance for Eritrea, where efforts to develop the infrastructure needed to rebuild the economy are more likely to succeed.

The Government of Eritrea is committed to holding elections and permitting a pluralist political system at the end of the current four-year transition period. Foreign assistance is vital if the country is to be encouraged along the path of democracy and to erase the effects of decades of war, exploitation and famine.

Yours etc,  
M. J. JOLLIFFE,  
4 Rue du Parc,  
8083 Bertrange, Luxembourg,  
May 22.

From the Reverend Jeremy Collingwood

Sir, Bernard Levin is less than fair to Africa ("Heart of darkness still", May 12). In the last five or so years, by my calculation, no fewer than 28 countries in sub-Saharan Africa have moved from military or one-party rule to embrace multi-party democracy. This is an extraordinary record and it needs to be applauded and not castigated.

Incumbent presidents, as in Zambia, Malawi and Benin, have been removed peacefully from power. Apartheid regimes in Namibia and South Africa have given way to multi-racial democratic parliaments, and Botswana continues as the African flagship of a well governed democracy.

What Bernard Levin should be doing is urging the European Union to allow Africa to trade on equal terms and to write off the debt burdens which are crippling many of these embryonic democracies. We who live in a protectionist glasshouse and dump our surplus on Africa are in no position to throw stones at the continent's experiments in democracy.

Yours faithfully,  
JEREMY COLLINGWOOD,  
25 Waterden Road, Guildford, Surrey.

### Crossed line

From Mr Bernard Stace

Sir, Lord Beloff (letter, May 17) states that Worcester College is on the way to Oxford station. To link this with other recent correspondence ("Comings and goings", see right), it depends on "where you are coming from".

Yours faithfully,  
BERNARD STACE,  
13 The Village,  
4 Cavendish Place, Bath, Avon,  
May 20.

### Freedom to roam

From the Chairman of the Ramblers Association

Sir, You reported on May 20 that on the Ramblers' Association's forthcoming "Open Britain Day" on September 24 our members "will stage mass trespasses at a number of sites".

We shall be holding a number of peaceful demonstrations on that day, but at present we have no plans for mass trespasses.

Any event which the Ramblers' Association might stage to express support for wider rights of public access to the countryside would be entirely peaceful, would be in accordance with any directions given by the police and would in no way breach the criminal law.

The Ramblers' Association does not challenge "the right to own property", as implied in your leading article ("Wrongs of way", May 22). But we draw a commonsense distinction between different types of property.

For example, it is reasonable for the owner of a house and garden to be able to regulate the manner and method of entry by others onto their land to the extent of excluding anyone whose presence is not welcome.

### Church and adultery

From Mr Joseph Usher

Sir, Whatever the views of the Bishop of Edinburgh, the Most Reverend Richard Holloway, on adultery (reports, May 17, 18; letters, May 20), the suggestion that it might not be a sin, but a "natural state", has a bearing on more than Christian sexual conduct.

My understanding of the scriptures is that they are about the Christian's relationship with God, who is both holy and righteous. The prophet Hosea had an adulterous wife and God used this illustration to rebuke the children of Israel about their relationship with Him.

In the Letter to the Ephesians husbands are exhorted to love their wives, just as Christ loved the Church. Clearly the scriptures view adultery as wrong and as a matter which affects the Christian's personal relationship with God.

### Marital choice

From Mr Alan Challoner

Sir, Men are likely to marry women who resemble their mothers, says a psychoanalyst at a conference on adultery (report, May 16; letters, May 18). As the late C. E. M. Joad might have commented, it all depends what is meant by resemble.

During infancy there is a basic instinct in all of us that motivates a bonding and the forming of a psychological attachment with person (usually mother or mother figure) whom we trust in the ontological sense.

This need for trust in relationships with others pervades our lives thereafter. We may unconsciously rely on our past experience of forming bonds when looking for a partner in life. Thus it can be seen we may be attracted to a woman who instils that confidence and who may have some of the characteristics of our mother.

Yours faithfully,  
ALAN CHALLONER,  
13 The Village,  
Bodelwyddan, Clwyd,  
May 19.

But we contend that it is not reasonable for the owner of an entire mountain or a vast area of moorland to have such an unqualified power. People should be able to walk freely over the wild, open spaces of the country of which they are citizens, as long as they do no damage to the land and its wildlife, and cause no disturbance to sheep rearing, grouse shooting or other legitimate economic activities.

Yours sincerely,  
KATE ASHBROOK,  
Chairman,  
The Ramblers' Association,  
1-5 Wandsworth Road, SW8,  
May 22.

From Mr Graham Burns

Sir, Why does unrestricted access to uncultivated land seem so objectionable in England, when it appears so uncontroversially accepted by all in Scotland? Or is it just another reason why walking in Scotland is so much more enjoyable than walking in England?

Yours faithfully,  
GRAHAM BURNS,  
2 North View,  
Wimbledon Common, SW19,  
May 23.

We would do well to remember the words of Jesus: "Go and sin no more" (John viii, 11).

Yours faithfully,  
J. USHER,  
78 Lombard Drive,  
Chester-le-Street, Co Durham.

From Mr David Monro

Sir, "God created man in his own image... male and female...". If this is true we can love and hurt one another — and rejoice and suffer; repent, forgive and be forgiven. If not, emotions are an unfortunate design fault in our genetically determined machine.

What possible hope or comfort can Bishop Holloway bring to those in marital breakdown?

Yours faithfully,  
DAVID MONRO,  
Monro Pennefather & Co,  
38 Bedford Place,  
Bloomsbury Square, WC1.

From Mr Warren Colman

Sir, Professor Bonner's concern (letters, May 18) that my comments on marital choice are based on popular belief addresses a familiar difficulty in conveying psychoanalytic ideas to the general public.

Since all of us know something about personal relationships it is not surprising that analytic insights bear some resemblance to popular beliefs. This does not mean that these insights are based on popular belief. It is, however, difficult to convey the difference in the context of popular journalism: mistresses make far more juicy headlines than the arcane details of the Oedipus complex.

Yours faithfully,  
WARREN COLMAN  
(Senior marital psychotherapist,  
Tavistock Marital Studies Institute,  
The Tavistock Centre,  
120 Belsize Lane, NW3,  
May 19.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

### Punishment of 'Winchester Two'

From Mr N. G. Allan

Sir, You were almost certainly right (leading article, May 20) to say that the custodial sentences imposed on Mr and Mrs David Whitehead were excessive.

Your reasoning, however, is dangerously wrong insofar as it trivialises their crime ("minor traffic offence"; "small traffic accident"; "minor lapse in integrity"). It is the same thinking which would express relief that the housemaid's illegitimate baby was only a small one.

A lie is a lie is a lie. And a lie told with the intention of perverting the course of justice is one which strikes at the heart of a system of which you, Sir, would no doubt wish to be considered a supporter.

The previous good character of the accused should have been enough to justify non-custodial disposals. To suggest that their crime was not a grave one sends an alarmingly wrong message.

Yours faithfully,  
N. G. ALLAN,  
11 Primrose Street, Dumfries,  
May 23.

From Mr P. J. Sidey

Sir, In the unfortunate event of two people having to go to jail for a short period — and punishing innocent parties left without necessary care at home — why cannot one sentence be concluded before the other is begun?

It would be nice if the law's delay could help the innocent, for once.

Yours faithfully,  
P. J. SIDNEY,  
The Ridge, Langley Road,  
Claverdon, Warwickshire,  
May 21.

From Mrs Mary Coker

Sir, On Channel 4 News tonight, Mr Michael Portillo said of Sir Jerry Wiggin's actions that they were silly rather than wicked, thus justifying the acceptance of an apology to the House as sufficient punishment.

What a pity Mr Justice Kennedy did not take the same view of the Whiteheads, whose offences were probably also silly rather than wicked.

In fact, if all sentencing had to take into account whether a guilty person was evil or silly in intent then more non-custodial sentences would be imposed, with a smaller prison population, less public expense and no loss of law and order as a consequence.

Yours faithfully,  
MARY COKER,  
Tyler End, Gleadlands,  
Penn, Buckinghamshire,  
May 22.

From Dr D. H. Fremlin

Sir, "Children told that jailed parents are on holiday" (headline, later editions, May 22). It seems that lying rather than facing up to disagreeable facts is a habit in some families.

Yours faithfully,  
D. H. FREMLIN,  
25 Ireton Road, Colchester, Essex,  
May 22.

### Thames view

From Mr Marcus Eales

Sir, I was very surprised to read of Greenwich Council's proposal to build a submerged bypass along the Thames in front of the Royal Naval College (article, May 10; letter, May 19). It is likely that during its construction the width of the river would have to be reduced substantially. This would have unpredictable and potentially serious effects on flood defences, navigation and wildlife.

Have we not learnt the lessons from recent flooding disasters along the Mississippi and Rhine which resulted from changing the course of these rivers?

Yours faithfully,  
MARCUS EALES,  
11 Trinity Road,  
Wimbledon, SW19.

### A bridge too far?

From the President of the Alliance Française de Londres

Sir, When considering the call by Trade Minister, Richard Needham, for schools to switch from teaching French to Spanish (report, later editions, May 18) there is a persuasive factor.

The culture of France engendered our own, whereas the culture of Spain did not. When we study French, we are also studying French culture.

Yours faithfully,  
PETER FAWCETT,  
President of the Alliance Française de Londres,  
1 Dorset Square, NW1,  
May 22.

### Comings and goings

From Mr D. B. Gurrey

Sir, As I am now well past my allotted span, my family tell me I should slow down. My friends, however, suggest that I should slow up.

Which is the better direction to follow (letters, May 11, 13, 15, 19, 20)?

Yours faithfully,  
D. B. GURREY,  
Gown Farm, Forden,  
Welshpool, Powys,  
May 20.



















## NEWS

## Bus crash kills pensioners

At least ten pensioners on a Royal British Legion day trip to Wales were feared dead and a further 20 injured after their coach careered off the M4 motorway down an embankment. Hospitals alerted more than 100 staff to cope with the accident, which happened last night between the Severn Bridge and the Almondsbury interchange. **Pages 1**

## Media ownership restricted

A radical overhaul of media ownership rules was announced by the Government, limiting any single owner to 10 per cent of the combined television, radio and newspaper marketplace. The rules would effectively block expansion of Britain's two biggest national press groups — News International, which owns *The Times* and four other national newspapers, and Mirror Group. **Pages 1, 17, 30**

## Camelot criticised

Camelot, the National Lottery operator, came under renewed attack after claims that it was earning up to £1 million a week for its services. **Pages 1, 25**

## Oil rig battle

A hunt through the obsolete Brent Spar oil platform was under way as police and oilmen braved flares and smoke canisters to track down the remaining Greenpeace protesters. **Page 2**

## Bias 'aided pimps'

A left-wing council's politically correct policies in favour of gays, women and ethnic minorities helped paedophile rings, pimps, drug dealers and child pornographers to exploit children in care, a report says. **Page 3**

## Libel payment

The organisers of the London Marathon accepted a £1.1 million libel payment from Channel 4 and *New Statesman* and *Society* magazine over allegations that they used the event to enrich themselves. **Page 3**

## Harder 'L' test

Learner drivers will have to answer written questions before being allowed to take a driving test, ministers said. **Page 8**

## Lawyers' league

Clients would be able to choose lawyers according to their success in winning cases under "league table" proposals. **Page 7**

## First artists were Australians

The history of art may have to be rewritten after the discovery in an Australian outback cave, using a new dating method, of a "crayon", a piece of red ochre flattened on one side, dating back possibly 60,000 years. Traditionally, archaeologists have assumed 30,000-year-old rock paintings in France to be the beginning of art. **Page 11**

## Yeltsin says 'no'

President Yeltsin jeopardised Russia's general elections planned for this year when he vetoed a key electoral Bill and triggered a political crisis with parliament. **Page 12**

## Jet woman well

The woman whose life was saved in an emergency operation with a coat-hanger on board a jumbo jet flying at 35,000ft left hospital after doctors said she was doing well. **Page 5**

## Oklahoma mourns

The building that had become a monument to America's worst act of terrorism has vanished from Oklahoma City. **Page 10**

## Archdeacon's rise

The Ven Christopher Herbert, Archdeacon of Dorking, has been plucked from the obscurity of life as a country clergyman to be Bishop of St Albans. **Page 8**

## Blow for Right

One of the Republican Right's most cherished proposals — to set term limits for members of the United States Congress — was ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. **Page 11**

## Peking's fury

Peking demanded that Washington should withdraw permission for President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan to visit America or face a serious deterioration in relations. **Page 13**



The Queen and the Emir of Kuwait arrive at Buckingham Palace yesterday at the start of the Emir's state visit to Britain. **Page 18**

## BUSINESS

**Lloyd's of London:** Lloyd's announced a £2.8 billion "fresh start" package. **Pages 23, 26**

**Economy:** The Treasury's panel of six independent economic forecasters is split right down the middle on where they think interest rates should go. **Page 23**

**Defence:** GEC and British Aerospace have been cleared to renew their bids for VSEL, the Barrow shipbuilder, after Michael Heseltine overruled a majority report from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. **Page 23**

**Markets:** The FT-SE 100 index rose 7.3 points, to close at 3,291.8. Sterling's trade-weighted index fell from 85.0 to 84.8 after a rise from \$1.5677 to \$1.5710 and a fall from DM2.2596 to DM2.2575. **Page 26**

## SPORT

**Motor racing:** Nigel Mansell's contract with McLaren has been terminated after only two races. Mark Blundell has been chosen to replace him in the Monaco Grand Prix this weekend. **Page 44**

**Football:** Paul Gascoigne and Paul Ince are in the England squad for the four-team international tournament against Brazil, Sweden and Japan this summer. **Page 44**

**Cricket:** England go into the first match of the Texaco Trophy one-day series against West Indies as bookmakers' favourites on flimsy evidence. **Page 42**

**Rugby union:** Jonah Lomu, of New Zealand, could become the sensation of the World Cup. He is the heaviest man in the team, yet he plays on the wing. **Page 39**

## ARTS

**Cambridge windfall:** A £6.6 million grant from the Arts Council's Lottery Fund, to be announced today, will enable the Cambridge Arts Theatre to be restored. **Page 33**

**Glyndebourne's triumph:** Rossini's rarely staged tragedy *Ermione* opened Glyndebourne's summer season on Monday — and proved to be a revelation. **Page 31**

**Entertaining Hitler:** Was Furtwängler right to stay and work in Nazi Germany? That is the question underlying Ronald Harwood's engrossing new play at Chichester. **Page 33**

**Wonder full:** Stevie Wonder recaptured much of his old magic in his Albert Hall concert, which raised funds for the National Institute for the Blind. **Page 31**

## FEATURES

**Beating hearts:** Women's romance makes up 44 per cent of the world's fiction market. In 1993, 250 million Mills & Boon romances were sold in 100 countries. Julia Llewellyn Smith meets two writers of romantic novels. **Page 15**

**Following suit:** The flip side to this season's utterly feminine fashion story is an androgynous take on men's tailoring. Iain R. Webb on the classic tuxedo. **Page 14**

**For you alone:** Tomorrow's hi-tech marketers will be able to customise goods on a grand scale. They will be able to offer coffee or tea blended just the way you like it, a swimsuit that's made to fit and flatter only you. **Page 30**

**Closing Pennsylvania Avenue:** Washington is a diminishment of American courage, decency and democracy. It is a diminishment of the traditional American notion of a citizen President. **Page 9**

**Following the Oklahoma bombing:** Americans are justifiably concerned at the growing problem of militias. Congress should do nothing that compromises rights, but it has an obligation to expose outlaw extremists. **Page 9**

## TV LISTINGS

**Preview:** The actress Jane Horrocks samples the French Caribbean in the first of a new series of *The Travel Show* (BBC2, 9pm). **Review:** Lynne Truss finds that the BBC's new police series has familiar echoes. **Page 43**

## OPINION

## Dorrell's law

The classic dangers of media monopoly are high prices, lack of consumer choice and a narrowing of political diversity. That is precisely what Mr Dorrell would achieve if he were ever allowed to enact his proposals. **Page 17**

## Duma democracy

Far better to risk postponing the Russian elections than proceed with an election on a flawed basis. **Page 17**

## Sellotape, air hostess

Most advances in surgery, from anaesthetics to sterilisation, have been made in emergency theatres. **Page 17**

## COLUMNS

## SIMON JENKINS

Baroness Thatcher began, hesitantly, a process of public sector reform which John Major has struggled to continue. He may not engage wide support in his reforms, but he should engage hers. **Page 16**

## ALAN COREN

Unless you are reading this on the French Riviera, there are no tall girls where you are. I know that because I am writing this on the French Riviera, and all the tall girls in the world are here. **Page 16**

## PETER RIDDELL

Paddy Ashdown and his allies are seeking to open the door to co-operation with Labour, while Tony Blair has been careful not to close the door. It is delicate for both parties: meetings of minds and discussions, for example, rather than any hint of pacts or deals. Any moves are fraught with difficulty. **Page 9**

## REGULARS

**Ragnhild Hatton,** historian and biographer; **Major Walter Magor,** colonial administrator and horticulturist; **Marshall Royal,** jazz saxophonist. **Page 16**

**Edwina Currie** on Baroness Thatcher's "revisionist" European view. **Page 17**

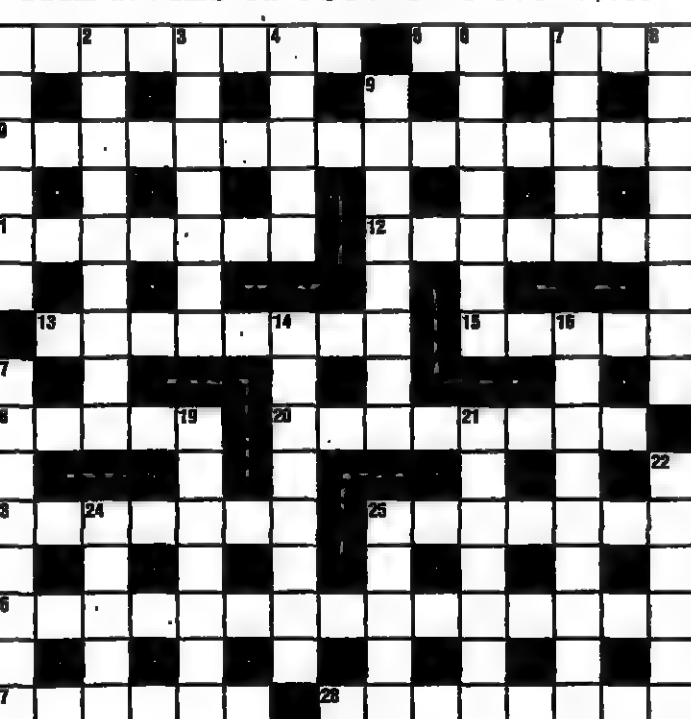
## IN THE TIMES

**THE BEST ...**  
Our Screenwriting Competition offers the winner a working trip to Hollywood

**AND THE WORST**  
Geoff Brown on *Ed Wood*, a celebration of Hollywood film-making at its most dire



## THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,863



- ACROSS**
- Secure opening to hide-out (4-4)
  - Conservative bid is safe (6)
  - To guard your position put rocks outside with earth (5,4,6)
  - Group of islands with one protected by the French and English (7)
  - Pack used to split defence (7)
  - Work put back by river board can be carried out (8)
  - It's a piece of cake in a golf club (5)
  - Weight of stones current swept back at start of the downpour (8)
  - Food served by devotee with a flourish (7)
  - Conspicuous way to receive stranger (7)
  - I sent to chuck out unwelcome guest (6,2,3,4)
  - Uninteresting cereal product found in waterless environment (6)
- DOWN**
- Create a disturbance peace-makers need to resolve (8)
  - One sailor after another capsized by rock (6)
  - Lose head in excitement after money secures tenancy (9)
  - Source of water conservationists used to maintain old monster (7)
  - Ruled with material reinforcements in the interior (5)
  - One involved in a row likely to draw a blade? (7)
  - "The Afternoon of a Faun" — a little glimpse of animal life (5)
  - Damage initially contained by calm and skill of flier (8)
  - Hungry? Drifting net sure to catch one! (8)
  - Russian police chief adopting measure causing ill-feeling perhaps (8)
  - Reduction applicable to order covering a thousand books (9)
  - Deceitful like the Knave of Hearts, say? (3-5)
  - Entrance to Rome university requiring an exchange of letters (7)
  - Always uplifted when priest enters to bring succour (7)
  - Sculpture is not right in height (6)
  - Agreeable to accept opening of House in the recess (5)
  - Determined assault (3,2)

**Solution to Puzzle No 19,862**

**BUSYBODY SCHOOL**  
E U I A U P O  
A B E Y A C R O B A T I C  
R S E L D B I A  
I N T E R C E D E Y A C H T  
N A C N H E  
G U N B O A T T R O U P E  
S C V L A D  
R E G E N T S H E A T H E  
C H Y C R G  
A P H I S C L O C K W O R K  
M O I L O H E N  
P L A Y G R O U P D R A M A  
U R H N T S G N  
S E A T E B O N E H E A D

## TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code:

Greater London	701
Kent/Surrey/Sussex	702
Dorset/Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wales/Gloucester/Hereford	705
Berks/Bucks/Oxon	706
Bedfordshire & Essex	707
North/Suffolk/Central	708
West Mid & Shropshire & Glam	709
Shropshire/Hereford & Worcester	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincoln & Humberside	713
Yorkshire & the Fens	714
Gloucestershire & Cheshire	715
NW England	716
W & S Yorkshire & Lancashire	717
NE England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
SW Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
East S Highland & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
NW Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 38p per minute (cheap rates) and 49p per minute at all other times.

## AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, route 1	731
London & M25	732
Essex/Hereford/Berks/Bucks/Oxon	733
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hereford	734
M25 London Orbital only	735
National traffic and roadworks	737
National motorways	738
West Country	739
Wales	740
Midlands	741
East Angles	742
North-west England	743
North-east England	744
Scotland	745
North-west Ireland	746
AA Roadwatch is charged at 38p per minute (cheap rates) and 49p per minute at all other times.	

## HIGHEST &amp; LOWEST

Monday: Highest day temp: Jersey, 20C (68F); lowest day temp: Far Isle, Shetland, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: Cape Wrath, Shetland, 0.4in; highest sunshine: Southwold, Essex, 12.6hr.

## FORECAST

**General:** England and Wales will be rather cloudy with showers developing, some turning heavy and possibly thundery. In the east the showers are likely to die out later in the day. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy. Showers in the west will spread to all areas and could merge to give longer spells of rain.

**London, SE, Central S England, Channel Isles:** rather cloudy with showers, possibly thundery at first. Becoming drier later. Wind south mainly light. Max 19C (66F).

**E Anglia, Midlands, E Central N, NE England:** cloud increasing with showers developing. Becoming drier later. Wind south-southwest mainly light. Max 19C (66F).

**SW England, Wales:** rather cloudy with showers. Becoming brighter in afternoon but still showery.

## AROUND BRISTOL

24 hr to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloudy; d=dreizzle; ds=drizzle showers; s=sunny; ss=sunny showers; w=wind; w+g=windy; g=gale; h=hail;

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Temp	Wind	Cloud
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17
Avonmouth	18	0.03	17	18	0.03	17

## ABROAD

Madrid	20	68	1	21	70	1
Algeria	37	99	5	38	100	5
Alexandria	28	82	5	29	84	5
Amman	24	75	1	25	77	1
Antwerp	20	68	1	21	70	1
Athens	26	79	5	27	81	5
Batavia	33	91	5	34	93	5
Bombay	30	86	5	31	88	5
Buenos Aires	31	88	5	32	90	5
Calcutta	30	86	5	31	88	5
Cairo	28	82	5	29	84	5
Canton	26	79	5	27	81	5
Cebu	28	82	5	29	84	5
Colon	28	82	5	29	84	5
Hankow	26	79	5	27	81	5
Hong Kong	28	82	5	29	84	5
Kobe	26	79	5	27	81	5
London	18	64	1	19	67	1
Lyons	18	64	1	19	67	1
Manila	28	82	5	29	84	5
Medan	28	82	5	29	84	5
Meerut	28	82	5	29	84	5
Mumbai	30	86	5	31	88	5
Perth	26	79	5	27	81	5
Port of Spain	28	82	5	29	84	5
Rangoon	28	82	5	29	84	5
San Francisco	18	64	1	19	67	1
Singapore	28	82	5	29	84	5
Sourabaya	28	82	5	29	84	5
Tientsin	26	79	5	27	81	5
Yokohama	26	79	5	27	81	5

## WIND

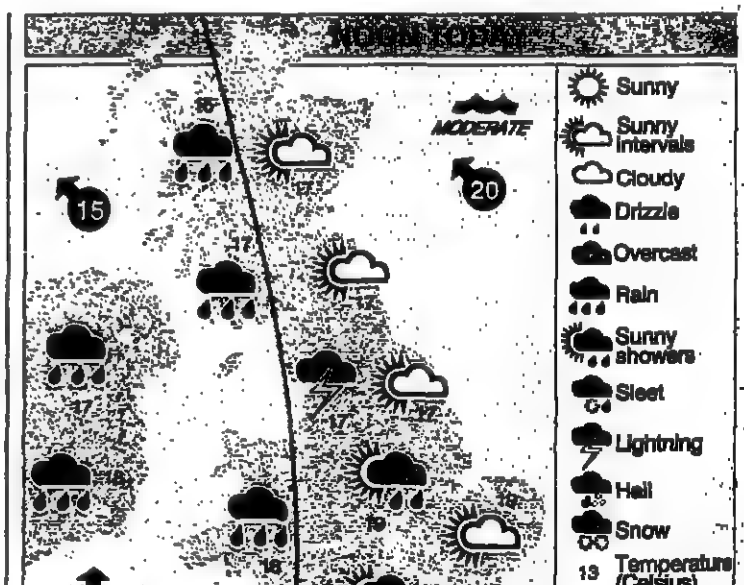
Wind south to southeasterly mainly light. Max 19C (66F).

**NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll, N Ireland:** rather cloudy with showers or longer spells of rain. Wind south-southwest moderate. Max 16C (61F).

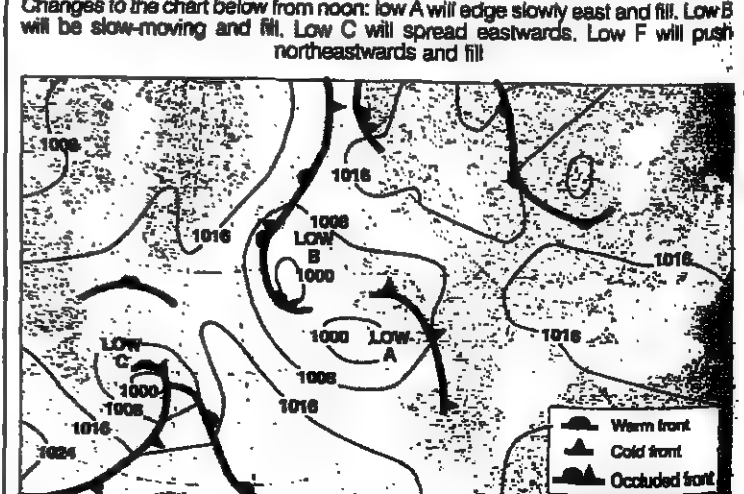
**Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** cloud increasing with showers developing. Becoming more prolonged later. Wind south-southwest moderate. Max 17C (63F).

**Outlook:** broken cloud and showers. Cloud thickening in the west on Friday.

**Pollen count:** Scotland L: North-east England L: Northern Ireland L: Midlands L: East Anglia L: Wales L: South East L: South West L: London L: H=high, L=low M=moderate.



Changes to the chart below from noon: low A will edge slowly east and fill. Low B will be slow-moving and fill. Low C will spread eastwards. Low F will push northeastwards and fill.



**HIGH TIDES**

Area	AM	HT	PM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8:50	8:56	10:10	6:22	10:47	4:78
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82

**LOW TIDES**

Area	AM	HT	PM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8:50	8:56	10:10	6:22	10:47	4:78
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82
Avonmouth	8:54	8:59	10:24	6:26	10:51	4:82

**HOURS OF DARKNESS</**







# Ministers to form defence industry strategy

By ROSS TIEMAN  
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to formulate a national industrial and technology strategy to ensure the preservation and development of Britain's military capability.

Work has begun at the Ministry of Defence to identify key military technologies, and the Department of Trade and Industry is studying the importance of defence manufacturing to the United Kingdom economy.

The studies are a clear recogni-

tion that, in a world of falling defence budgets and ever more expensive weapons, Britain can no longer afford to remain at the forefront in every area of defence technology. In the past, Britain has retained a short, secret list of "essential technologies".

Details of the work to develop a new, explicit strategy were revealed by Roger Freeman, the Defence Procurement Minister, yesterday to a cross-party Commons inquiry into procurement policy. The findings will be reported to Parliament in the autumn, he told members of the joint

inquiry by the Commons Select Committee on Defence and Trade and Industry.

Although the Government remained committed to securing value for money through competition, the MoD's responsibility for the defence industrial base now implied "a more systematic examination of the technologies and industrial capabilities we ought to sustain, either nationally, or to allow us to collaborate with others", Mr Freeman told the inquiry.

The review would "ensure key defence industrial interests are taken

into account as an integral part of our defence procurement process".

Mr Freeman's statement made plain that the shift, begun last autumn, from a hands-off procurement policy has much further to go. "We need a much improved working relationship between the Ministry of Defence, the Department of Trade and Industry, and the UK defence industry," he said. "We need to share more of our forward plans with industry."

The minister's comments will delight industrialists who have complained that the Government, by

ignoring the industrial consequences of its decisions on weapons purchases, is seriously weakening Britain's ability to produce the weapons needed by the armed services. France and the United States, the chief rivals of the British defence industry, have long pursued national defence technology plans.

To begin the healing process, Mr Freeman said that the MoD planned a seminar in July for chief executives of UK defence businesses "to explain our defence technology strategy over the next ten years and to identify opportunities for collaboration".

## OECD says high rates of joblessness will persist

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

UNEMPLOYMENT is likely to remain high in major industrialised countries, and especially in Europe, in spite of a rise in employment — though fears about a jobless recovery have proved unfounded, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said last night.

But the OECD gave warning of the impact on jobs of "high" statutory minimum wages, a move that will be welcomed by the UK Government.

In its latest jobs study, the OECD — the West's leading economic think-tank, covering the developed world's 25 major economies — said yesterday that although unemployment is now edging down from its peak, policymakers will still have to "confront a major problem of high and persistent unemployment".

The jobs study, released as ministers from the major economies held their annual two-day OECD meeting, acknowledged that economic re-

covery, though now "close to maturity" in countries which were in its vanguard, has led to an increase in employment of about 1.5 per cent a year across OECD countries.

Jean-Claude Paye, OECD Secretary-General, said: "The fears, which were expressed about a 'jobless recovery' have proved largely unfounded", though he said that employment growth to date is not as strong as in past recoveries.

While unemployment overall was now falling from around 34 million, or 8 per cent of the OECD states, total labour force, the OECD said that "unemployment looks set to remain high even when the cyclical recovery is complete". It forecast that by the end of the decade unemployment will fall only to about 7 per cent — higher than its pre-recession level in 1990.

The proportion of people out of work in Europe by the year 2000 "may still be close to 9 per cent", the organisation said. Unemployment is therefore still continuing to ratchet up from cycle to cycle.

The OECD's first jobs study last year put forward a broad programme of action to deal with unemployment. It set out further recommendations this time, including a reduction in unemployment and welfare-related benefits where they are seen to be too generous, an increase in net incomes in work through changes in taxes and benefits and a further move towards active labour market policies.

British ministers will welcome the OECD's caution over a national minimum wage. The OECD said: "High statutory minimum wages, especially when combined with high non-wage labour costs, can make it very difficult for youths and other low-skilled workers to price themselves into the labour market."

## Japanese profits suffer

By COLIN NARBROUGH  
WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

WITH THE US-Japan trade dispute set to escalate against the background of the strong yen, Japanese companies yesterday reported damage to profits while forecasting worse to come.

Toyota, the carmaker, said that its parent company profit in the nine months to the March 31 was ¥236.21 billion (£1.71 billion) on rebased figures, compared with ¥214.03 billion for the 12 months to last June. It said that it expected no further improvement in the current business year, particularly if America imposed the sanctions on luxury car imports from Japan.

The forecast profit for the year to next March is ¥200 billion, without allowing for damage from US sanctions.

Suzuki, the leading Japanese minicar maker, forecast that its operating profit for the year to next March would drop to ¥18 billion, from ¥30.5 billion for the last financial year.

Pioneer Electronic, the audio equipment maker, said group pre-tax profit slumped 71 per cent in the year to March to ¥2.8 billion.

## Clinton likely to back cash for Ulster

By NICHOLAS WATT  
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT



Gudgin: peace dividend

BUSINESSMEN from both sides of the Irish border and from across America have descended on Washington for President Clinton's Irish American investment conference which opens today.

President Clinton is expected to announce his support for a multimillion-pound scheme for research and development projects for Ireland when he delivers a keynote address tomorrow. A series of other announcements are likely by investors in areas from retail to tourism.

The conference, which comes nine months into the IRA ceasefire, is designed to underpin the Northern Ireland peace process by channelling the unprecedented interest in the Province into investment projects. Mr Clinton said this week that the

creation of jobs was a crucial factor in securing a lasting peace. In an interview with *Omnibus*, the Northern Ireland Office magazine, he said: "Jobs will help alleviate the conditions which have bred violence and despair in the past."

Northern Ireland has traditionally lagged behind the rest of the United Kingdom and is dependent on a massive subvention of more than £3 billion a year, but is currently enjoying a strong economic upturn. Unemployment has fallen to 11.8 per cent, the lowest level since 1981; manufacturing output rose nearly 7 per cent last year; and Northern Ireland's exports are growing at a faster rate than the UK average.

The optimistic outlook was underlined yesterday when Marks & Spencer announced that the food hall in its flagship store in Northern Ireland, at Sprucefield

on the edge of Belfast, outperformed all other UK branches last year. Sainsbury is expected to open eight stores in the Province, and 20 retailers are competing for six remaining outlets at Ireland's biggest shopping mall which is due to open this year in Londonderry. There have also been a series of recent job announcements in the Province ranging from high-tech South Korean companies to textile firms.

Much of the groundwork which led to the upbeat figures was laid before the IRA and loyalist ceasefires. However, Dr Graham Gudgin, of the Northern Ireland Economic Research Centre, believes there are now early signs of the much-vaunted peace dividend. The Industrial Development Board, which attracts investors with generous grants has reported a 30 per cent increase in first-time visits by companies since the ceasefires.



Full speed ahead: Sam Newington, chairman of Fairline Boats, said the order book is 18 per cent ahead year-on-year, reflecting an improvement in market conditions. In the half-year to March 31, taxable profits rose to £512,000 from £350,000. Earnings were 9.8p (6.74p) and the interim dividend is 6.5p, from 5p

## Extra 12,000 'face eviction'

By ROBERT MILLER

UP TO 12,000 more people face having their homes repossessed in the first full year after the Government cuts income support payments in October, according to private estimates circulating in the £350 billion mortgage industry. At present, some 1,000 homes are taken into possession by lenders every week.

At a meeting tomorrow between Peter Lilley, the Social Security Secretary, and the Council of Mortgage Lenders, the CML will press the minister to scrap his plans to introduce the income support cuts. The CML will argue that the level of repossessions will rise after the cuts and that to make new borrowers who are subsequently made redundant or become too ill to work wait for up to nine months before receiving state assistance will be a severe blow to an already depressed housing market.

The CML will argue that the £200 million of savings that the Department of Social Security hopes to make through its cuts will be more than swallowed up in other areas of the social housing budget.

The DSS, however, insists that the private insurance sector will fill the gap with mortgage protection policies. A DSS spokesman said that, at tomorrow's meeting, the department "will be looking to see how far those involved in the mortgage protection market have progressed in developing these policies".

Nick Raynsford, Labour's housing spokesman, said: "There is no foundation for the Government's belief that the private sector will come to the rescue, as the Department of the Environment's own report showed last week. This pointed out that a very high proportion of homeowners in difficulty would not be helped when they fall into difficulties even if they have such policies. The DSS must wake up to the fact that there is almost universal condemnation of their proposals to take away the state safety net when people are at their most vulnerable."

Anthony Harris, page 27

## BUSINESS ROUNDUP

### King & Shaxson in talks over APS bid

KING & SHAXSON, the stockbroking and discount house, confirmed that it is in discussion with Allied Provincial Securities (APS), the retail stockbroking firm, with a view to making an outright bid for APS. If the deal goes ahead it would make King & Shaxson one of the largest firms of retail stockbrokers, with the added bonus of strengthening its presence in the corporate broking market.

King & Shaxson last year acquired Greig Middleton using a staggered new share issue to fund the purchase. If the APS purchase goes ahead after King & Shaxson has completed purchase of a further issue could be on the cards. City due diligence, a further issue could be on the cards. City analysts believe that after the purchase of APS, which has a regional network of 19 offices, there would be a period of rationalisation leading to job losses and branch closures.

### Kwik-Fit into insurance

KWIK-FIT Holdings, the car repair and parts group, is diversifying into insurance services for motorists through a joint venture with Alexander & Alexander, the insurance broker. A centre has been established in Lanarkshire to run the telephone-based service, with an initial workforce of 240. A panel of 15 insurance companies will provide underwriting capacity to cover any driver and any make of car. Kwik-Fit owns 77.5 per cent of the new venture, Alexander & Alexander 12.5 per cent and the management 10 per cent.

### Jarvis Porter climbs

ACQUISITIONS helped to lift annual profits at Jarvis Porter, the specialist international label printer. In the year to February 28, the company earned £10.6 million pre-tax (£6.8 million). There was a contribution of £3.3 million from newly acquired businesses, comprising NGG in The Netherlands and Donprint International. There is a final dividend of 4.1p a share, which is due on July 28, making 6p for the year, lifted from 5.2p. Earnings improved to 18.1p a share from 14.1p. The shares rose 4p to 271p yesterday.

### Hughes edges ahead

PROFITS at TJ Hughes, the discount department store operator based in the North West, were £1.62 million before tax in the year to January 28, against £1.60 million previously, in spite of an 11 per cent rise in sales to £48.5 million, from £43.5 million. The company said that profits were held back by higher than expected stock shrinkage, at a cost of £250,000. A final dividend of 1.8p a share, due on July 21, lifts the total to 2.65p from 2.5p, payable from earnings of 5.43p a share (5.45p last time).

### Tunstall raises interim

TUNSTALL GROUP, which supplies emergency communications systems, said trading prospects continued to improve in the second half. The company has increased the interim dividend to 1.49p a share, from 1.35p, after achieving an 11.2 per cent rise in operating profits to £3.6 million, from £3.2 million, in the six months to March 31. At the pre-tax level, profits were £5.03 million, which included a £1.5 million credit arising from a successful claim against Anchor Line. Actual earnings were 11.5p a share, compared with 7p last time.

### Record for Sanderson

SANDERSON ELECTRONICS, the supplier of computer application software and hardware products, earned record pre-tax profits of £2.8 million in the half year to March 31 (£2.7 million). Earnings rose to 4.6p a share (4p) and the interim dividend is 1.5p (1.5p), due on July 3. Turnover improved to £27.1 million (£24.2 million), with annual recurring revenues from software licence fees and service and support contracts providing £9 million. Sanderson Pacific, the 80 per cent-owned US subsidiary, contributed £578,000 to operating profits.

### McLeod Russel to sell

MCLEOD RUSSEL HOLDINGS, the specialist industrial group, proposes to sell its property trading and investment activities, which had a total net book value of £8.6 million at March 31. Funds raised will be used to finance the growth of the company's coatings and air filtration businesses. McLeod is pegging the interim dividend for the six months to March 31 at 2.75p a share in spite of an increase in profits to £2.86 million before tax from £2.1 million. Earnings were 3.7p a share (2.81p). The shares rose 2p to 140p.

### HK currency peg to stay

HONG KONG will adhere to its monetary arrangements, which link the local dollar to the US currency at a fixed rate, after 1997, when the British colony reverts to Chinese sovereignty, Donald Tsang, Financial Secretary-designate, said in London yesterday (Colin Narbrough writes).

He said the system had given Hong Kong a stability that was vital to preserve, and that China fully appreciated the importance of that stability to Hong Kong's economic future. Furthermore, the Hong Kong dollar was now widely used as a parallel currency in southern China. Involving up to a quarter of the total amount of Hong Kong dollars in issue.

### TOURIST RATES

Australia \$	2.29	15.42
Austria Sch	16.93	15.42
Belgium Fr	40.81	15.42
Canada \$	2.257	15.42
Cyprus Cyp£	0.758	15.42
Denmark Kr	8.47	15.42
Finland Mk	7.48	15.42
France Fr	6.44	15.42
Germany Dr	2.42	15.42
Greece Dr	381.00	15.42
Hong Kong \$	7.251	15.42
Ireland Ir£	1.08	15.42
Israel	6.2763	15.42
Italy Lit	2745.00	15.42
Japan Yen	191.50	15.42
Malta	0.003	15.42
Netherlands Gld	2.808	15.42
Norway Kr	10.88	15.42
Portugal Esc	248.00	15.42
S Africa Rd	161	15.42
Spain Ptas	166.64	15.42
Sweden Kr	10.19	15.42
Switzerland Fr	2.02	15.42
Turkey Lira	1.871	15.42
USA \$	1.671	15.42

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

Los Angeles \$363, Denver \$369, San Francisco \$363, Seattle \$363, Salt Lake City \$408, Albuquerque \$408, Phoenix \$379, New Orleans \$379, Colorado Springs \$379, St. Louis \$353, Chicago \$379, Minneapolis \$379, Dallas \$379, Houston \$379, San Diego \$379.

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**TWA**

US packa

CROWN GOLF... American... an agreed... (CMB) the AG... party, by stre... world leader... The deal... ined (CMB) s... with Compas... de Participa... shareholders... group's main... William... dem of Crow... group's chair... while travel...



Consolidation the only target for weapons industry Lottery profits a good bet No truce among economists

## Defence of the Realm

BRITAIN'S defence procurement policy has reached a turning point.

During the past decade, the fierce imposition of real competition on the bloated defence sector by the hard-bitten Sir Peter Levene has wrought a remarkable transformation.

The switch from costly cost-plus contracts has driven many companies out of business, or out of the sector. Consolidation and specialisation have reduced the number vying for orders.

The more recent policy of appointing a private sector prime contractor to oversee even the largest programmes has increased the need for large, well-funded groups with strong project management skills.

Rival offers for VSEL, the Barrow warship builder, by British Aerospace and GEC were a logical market response to those pressures.

In its reports on the suitability of either to own VSEL, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission has charted the forces at work and the limits to a competitive policy.

As the Ministry of Defence acknowledges in its evidence, Britain now has only one supplier for many pieces of equipment. Some programmes — at first for new aircraft and now for new frigates — have become so expensive that Britain finds col-

laboration with other nations necessary to achieve economies of scale.

Defence manufacturers have been increasingly alarmed that unless the industrial implications of major orders are thought through, Britain will fast lose the capacity to make weapons to defend itself.

The MMC inquiry has allowed the MoD to state publicly exactly where it believes its interests now lie. Its evidence says that competition has enabled Britain to develop the most cost-competitive warship industry in the world.

The ministry believes that its monopolistic purchasing power can guarantee value for money for the taxpayer. But: "It was increasingly hard to justify the additional costs and overheads associated with the maintenance of competition, given that for the foreseeable future the small and reducing UK naval programme would not be capable of providing an adequate loading for the capacity that currently existed."

The way is now clear for substantial consolidation among other areas of defence manufac-

turing where there is surplus capacity and companies have inadequate capital resources to act as prime contractors on modern defence projects, such as armoured vehicles and missile systems.

Heseltine's decision should be seen, however, to clear the way for a combination of GEC and British Aerospace. The MoD's main concern should now be to ensure a choice of well-capitalised prime contractors for any large programme.

A GEC-BAE merger would simply force the MoD to search for other prime contractors, if necessary from overseas.

### Fishing for sardines in Camelot's wake

THE CABINET courted trouble when, needlessly and eccentrically, it created the National Lottery as a new statutory private monopoly. The skills of Camelot, the chosen licensee, seemed to justify that choice. In its own terms, the lottery has been a terrific success, taking more than £100 million a week

### PENNINGTON



and creating jackpot prizes several times the £2 million its promoters envisaged. But the set-up has made government and regulator vulnerable to critics of anything remotely fishy.

To coin a gallicism, when the seagulls follow the trawler, it is because they expect sardines to be thrown into the sea. The high catches made by HMS Lottery, no longer of interest in themselves, are focusing attention on the rising flow of sardines appearing in its wake. Bickering among winners, suicide of a loser and the Churchill letters purchase fill the human interest slot. Social concern is aroused by the fall in charitable giving and exclusion of medical charities from first round disbursements.

In the daily business news, any consumer company feeling the pinch, from football pools to cinemas, can blame the lottery for netting consumer spending.

Impending publication of Camelot's first financial results, including directors' pay, will see it graduate to the fashionable "greedy private utility" sector. Public response has been far greater than prospectuses of would-be licensees projected, or than Ofwat therefore assumed. Most members of the consortium, except Cadbury-Schweppes, might have been content to profit most from supply contracts. Instead, the higher percentage take in the early period will allow Camelot to show a profit from the start and recoup its £100 million plus investment in double-quick time.

Unless lottery fever abates, Camelot will prove an outstanding investment and cash flow in later years will be embarrassingly rich. But the political furore is unlikely to die down and the Government and regulator will find it difficult to ignore calls for action. Contracting the lottery out shifted risk to

the private sector. Success is bringing high rewards to Camelot. Critics should ponder if they would have preferred failure.

### The wise men turn tribal

THE wise men have never been less than honourable and committed to their task of advising the Government on policy since they burst on the scene in late 1992 amid the wreckage of sterling's ERM misadventure. But yesterday's report from the six added little to the current economic debate for a reason that was clear on the day the panel was formed. Representatives from the Friedmanite and Keynesian ends of the economic spectrum were chosen for ideological fairness while stalwarts of the often institutional middle ground were supposed to give the group ballast.

That was fine for an airing of a wide range of views. For coherent advice to the Government, it was pretty useless. It has suited successive Chancellors well. The trouble — and this applies

to most economists — is that economics is tribal. There are inflation hawks and inflation doves and they are always biased towards their own instincts. There are those exclusively wedded to the rules of money supply who are convinced that nothing else matters that much. Others have always felt uneasy about pure monetarism and now regard it as dangerous hokum.

Patrick Minford and Tim Congdon have, from day one, been more inclined towards lower interest rates than the others because, since the panel was formed, financial and money indicators of the economy have been weak. It has been that type of recovery. Wynne Godley has joined them from a totally different angle, arguing for lower rates on the grounds that whatever growth there is in the economy, it is not enough. Call them the Cavaliers.

Two others — Andrew Britton and David Currie — represent establishment, middle-of-the-road forecasting institutions which rarely stick their necks out but have an ingrained uneasiness about inflation. Gavin Davies, whether he likes it or not, is also part of the establishment. Call them the Roundheads. As history shows, the ideological divide between the Cavaliers and Roundheads was too wide for them to reach any meaningful truce.

### Production problems hit Readicut

PROFITS at Readicut International, the specialist textiles company, fell to £14 million before tax last year from £20.9 million (Martin Barrow writes).

The downturn in the 12 months to the March 31 was blamed on production problems at Textile Bonding, a subsidiary of the furnishing and household textiles division, and a trading loss at Plasticisers Engineering in the yarns and fibres division. Comparable profits in the previous 12 months also benefited from a one-off profit of £3.9 million on disposals.

Difficult trading conditions and an increase in raw material costs caused a fall in operating profits to £14.97 million from £18.5 million. The total dividend stays at 24p a share, with an unchanged 2.8p final, due August 12. Earnings fell to 4.66p a share from 5.83p. The shares eased 24p to 68p yesterday.

## Thorn shares advance as investors scent break-up

By MARTIN WALLER

SHARES in Thorn EMI, the music to rentals group that has been one of the strongest stock market performers in recent months, were on an upward track again yesterday after investors scented a lucrative break-up of the group.

Thorn, reporting full-year figures, suggested to the market that a demerger might again be on the cards, an idea sufficient to reverse an earlier slide in the shares, which ended up 10p at £12.20p.

Sir Colin Southgate, Thorn chairman, said the company would no doubt look at the option of separating the three businesses that comprise the group this year to see if this could increase shareholder value. But he added: "There's no demerger on the agenda." Such an exercise would, in any

event, take well over a year to organise, he said.

Thorn's figures for the year to March 31 were a little ahead of City expectations, but they were affected by one-off items. The group implied some slackening in the rate of dividend rises. On a pre-tax basis ahead of exceptional items, Thorn reported £423.6 million, a 23 per cent rise on the figure of £344.2 million reported last year, but a total of £152.5 million of one-offs dragged the reported figure back to £271.1 million, down from a comparable £326.5 million.

The exceptional items were to cover non-core disposals and the closure of Rumbelton, the retail operation. The final dividend is up by 1.75p to 26.75p, making a total increased from 34p to 36.5p.

paid out of adjusted earnings of 62.5p. Thorn's music division, bolstered by a total of 30 albums that achieved sales of more than 1 million apiece, pushed operating profits ahead from £246 million to £295 million.

The Thorn rental business, which drove return on sales ahead from 8.7 to 9.6 per cent, saw profits rise from £129 million to £152 million. The HMV retail operation jumped from £6.1 million to £14 million as recent openings came on stream and the average size of the stores increased. Now within this division is the Dillons chain of bookstores, which is expected to make a "small positive contribution" to the current year.

Thorn shares have been pushed ahead in recent weeks

by speculation that the huge American Walt Disney corporation is looking to buy the music division. Sir Colin played down any suggestion of a sale. "Everybody expresses interest in that business," he said. "I have banks who tell me there's a huge interest out there — but nobody's made me a fair offer." He said that the rumours had emerged from Los Angeles music business circles.

Thorn yesterday announced five alliances in new technology and multimedia areas, including links with Virgin Interactive Entertainment, for the development of multimedia software, and a technology venture with Apple Computer, of America.

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### Time aims to sell off music stake

TIME WARNER, the American media conglomerate, wants to sell a 49 per cent stake in Warner Chappell, the world's largest music publisher, to reduce debt (Eric Reguly writes).

Warner Chappell, whose British office is one of the largest parts of the business, has turnover of about \$500 million and estimated profits of \$125 million. Its value has been estimated at \$1 billion. The company owns the copyrights to music, including the Frank Sinatra catalogue, going back decades. Time Warner would not comment on the attempted sale which is one of several efforts by the conglomerate to reduce the debt taken on five years ago when Time and Warner Communications completed their \$14 billion merger.

The company reported pre-

## Overseas boost for North West Water

By ERIC REGULY

THE International operations of North West Water will produce stronger results in the next few years after having made their first contribution to group profits in 1994-95, the company said yesterday.

Water projects in Mexico, Malaysia and Australia earned £3 million in the year to March 31. The profits would have been higher but for Mexico's peso crisis and construction delays caused by the Malaysian election. A £160 million project in Bangkok has also been delayed, which may lead to losses.

North West hopes to earn its first income from the US this year. It recently bid to operate a municipal water franchise in New Jersey for a 20-year period. Profits from the contract could reach as much as \$4 million a year, Brian Staples, chief executive, said.

The company reported pre-

tax profits of £284 million for the year to March 31, up 5.6 per cent from the previous year.

Earnings per share rose 8.5 per cent to 72.8p while turnover, propelled by new domestic connections, was up 9.5 per cent to £1 billion.

A final dividend of 17.2p will be paid on October 3, making the total dividend 25.5p, up 10.75 per cent. A special dividend of 3.8p will be paid at the same time.

The dividend is part of a five-year package that will hand back £180 million to shareholders and customers over the next five years.

Customers will begin to receive their annual £6.50 rebates by Giro cheque this week.

North West shares rose 5p to 583p.

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David Codling, chief executive of Hozelock, at the Chelsea Flower Show this week

### Hozelock reaps rewards

By MARTIN BARROW

HOZELOCK GROUP, the supplier of specialist garden products, is making strong progress in continental European markets as it seeks to replicate its strong UK position.

Pre-season shipments were up 54 per cent year-on-year, helped by the establishment of a subsidiary in The Netherlands and the purchase of the company's Swedish distributor. Hozelock already has a subsidiary in France.

Yesterday the company reported a rise in taxable profits to £2.9 million from £2 million in the half-year to April 1, with earnings of 7.8p a share, up from 5.3p. The interim dividend is 2.7p, up from 2.3p.

Turnover improved to £18.4 million from £14.3 million. David Codling, chief executive, said sales of watering products advanced 30 per cent in a market that grew 28 per cent year-on-year. Sales of aquatic products, mainly for garden ponds, rose 45 per cent. In spite of substantial increases in raw material costs, net margins were maintained through a combination of volume-related efficiency gains and limited increases in selling prices.

Cash balances were £3.9 million at the end of March, with the main selling period still to come. Hozelock shares rose 8p to 319p.

## US packaging group buys CMB

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

CROWN CORK & SEAL, the leading American packaging group, has signed an agreement to buy CarmaudMetalbox (CMB), the Anglo-French packaging company, to create a \$10 billion-turnover world leader in the industry.

The deal, which values the London-listed CMB, at \$5.2 billion, was agreed with Compagnie Générale d'Industrie et de Participations (CGIP), CMB's largest shareholder with 46 per cent of voting rights, which becomes the merged group's main shareholder.

William Avery, chairman and president of Crown, will become the new group's chairman and chief executive, while Ernest-Antoine Sellière, the CGIP

chairman and supervisory board chairman of CMB, will become a director and chair the strategic committee. World headquarters will be in Philadelphia, with the European headquarters in Paris. "We will be the world's premier packaging company," Mr Avery said.

Crown, based in Philadelphia, has traditionally not paid a dividend on its common stock, but plans to alter this policy and declare a cash dividend in the quarter after completion of the deal.

Under the definitive agreement, the merger will be implemented through a share offer in September, accompanied by a cash option, by Crown to CMB shareholders. The choice will be between a

securities package, valued at total of £725 per share, and £125 in cash, representing a 20 per cent premium over the share price of May 22.

Craig Calie, the Crown treasurer, said the deal was not conditional on financing, regardless of how CMB shareholders choose to receive their compensation. Dividends are expected to start in the first quarter of next year.

Crown, with 152 plants in 42 countries, last year had a turnover of \$4.5 billion. CMB, which was formed by the merger of Carmaud of France and Metalbox, the UK company, in 1989, operates 190 plants.

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## STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

## TV broadcasters' shares suffer poor reception

THE Government's proposals on media ownership received a mixed reception in the Square Mile. Shares of the independent television broadcasters fell sharply as bid hopes faded. By contrast, the buyers came rushing in for the independent radio broadcasters.

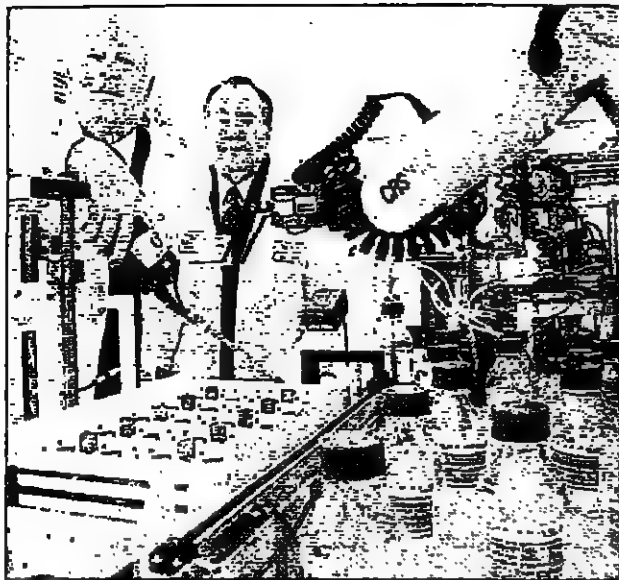
Under the proposals put forward by the Department of National Heritage, a maximum limit of 10 per cent of the total media market will be placed on any one individual or company. This would include newspapers, radio stations, and both terrestrial and satellite television. Total market share for each sector would be limited to 20 per cent.

The move came as a body blow to City speculators who had been expecting a free-for-all development, particularly among television companies. Worst hit was Yorkshire-Tyne Tees, which fell 36p to 486p as bid hopes faded. This month, Pearson sold its 14.8 per cent stake in YTV to MAI, which controls Meridian and Anglia in addition to owning a large slice of SelectTV, 1p lighter at 27p. MAI finished 8p down at 260p.

Other losses among the television companies included Carlton Communications, reporting today, 11p to 959p, HTV, 6p to 196p, Scottish Television, 26p to 454p, and Ulster, 22p to 81p.

But it seems the radio companies will benefit from the move, with no restrictions on the number of licences they can hold. Brokers claim that such a move will bolster profits in the years to come. Capital Radio climbed 10p to 44p, Children Radio 3p to 27p, Metro Radio 8p to 45p, and Scottish Radio 9p to 23p. Shares of newspaper publishers closed mixed. Pearson, owner of the *Financial Times*, rose 3p to 586p. Mirror Group fell 4p to 136p. The Telegraph firm fell 1p to 392p. United Newspapers, owner of the *Daily Express*, fell 7p to 51p. Daily Mail Trust stood still at £14.23, with News International unchanged at 31p.

Elsewhere, a late burst helped share prices to close with modest gains on the day, supported by another positive opening rise on Wall Street. But prices generally traded in narrow limits for much of the day, with investors increasingly cautious about the economy before today's revised GDP data. Most fund managers



Sir Desmond Pitcher and Brian Staples of North West Water

take the view that the next rise in base rates may be some way off, but even government advisers admit to being split about the need for another rise. In the event, the FT-SE 100 index reversed an earlier fall of almost 8 points to end the session 7.3 higher at 3,291.8 as 662 million shares were traded.

The smell of burnt fingers

Tamaris, the nursing home operator, will today announce the acquisition of three nursing homes in Scotland. The deal double the number of beds 800, with a total of 1,000 in place before the year-end. The deal is expected to cost almost £20 million, raised by a placing and open offer. The price firmed 5p to 24p.

Board of Trade, overturned its decision and gave the green light to both bids. The speculators now expect a fierce battle for control of the Trident submarine manufacturer between GEC and BAE. BAE finished the session 10p lower at 537p, while GEC was 3p easier at 314p.

Full-year figures from Marks & Spencer, the pre-

mier high street retailer, failed to live up to expectations, leaving the price 10p lower at 408p. The group also gave warning about current trading prospects describing them as "subdued and very competitive".

Such a statement from the likes of M&S was bound to have an adverse effect on the rest of the stores sector. Falls were recorded in Alders, 5p to

waited round the market in early trading as shares of VSEL, touched £16.32 before bouncing to end the day 83p higher at £17.83. This followed reports that the Monopoles and Mergers Commission had recommended to block the bid from GEC, but allow the rival offer from British Aerospace to proceed.

In the event, Michael Heseltine, President of the

YORKSHIRE-TYNE TEES: BID HOPES TAKE A KNOCK

May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May

237p. Great Universal Stores, 16p to 384p. House of Fraser, 19p to 155p. Kingfisher, 6p to 46p. Storehouse, 6p to 238p. Body Shop, 3p to 136p, and Boots, 13p to 51p. WH Smith, which rattled the City last week with a profits warning, fell a further 5p to 337p.

Thorn EMI made little impact in the City after reporting a drop in full year pre-tax profits from £326.5 million to £271.1 million. The figure was struck after exceptional charges of £152 million, mostly relating to the closure of its Rumbelow chain of stores. Once again the company denied plans to demerge its music business. The shares rose 10p to £12.20p. Last month, it refused claims that it was in talks with Walt Disney about selling the business for about £3 billion.

North West Water added 5p at 583p after reporting an rise in pre-tax profits. The group has already promised a special dividend payment of 3.8p for the next five years but indicated that it may extend the plans into the next century.

Shares of CarnaudMetalbox, the Anglo-French packaging group, soared 43p to £26.96 1/2 after learning of a surprise bid from Crown Cork & Seal, the US group, valuing the business at £3.3 billion.

Proudford, the management consultancy, fell 12p to 48p after cautioning that first-half profits will be unlikely to match the figure for the corresponding period last year.

GLF-EDGED: Prices continued to edge higher in modest trading as investors continued switching out of shorts into the longer end of the market. Investors are confident that the next rise in interest rates is some way off.

In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt traded in a narrow band, ranging from £106 1/2 to £106 1/4, before settling at £106 1/4. A total of 43,000 contracts were completed.

Among conventional issues, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 advanced 1/8 to 99 1/2, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 hardened 1/8 to £100 1/4.

NEW YORK: Shares maintained their gains in early trading, buoyed by bargain-hunters who continued to see buying opportunities after last week's sell-off, analysts said. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 18.67 points at 4,414.30 by midday.

## MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	4414.30 (+18.67)
S&P Composite	526.06 (+2.41)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	15916.15 (+127.03)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9302.86 (+94.12)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	426.82 (+1.19)
Sydney:	
ASX	2030.40 (+24.7)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2880.35 (+2.82)
Singapore:	
SEAC Volume	2181.08 (+30.68)
Brussels:	
General	7636.99 (+20.44)
Paris:	
CAC 40	1965.31 (+14.28)
Zurich:	
SWX	644.30 (+4.40)
London:	
FT 100	3291.8 (+7.3)
FT-SE 100	3291.8 (+7.3)
FT-SE 250	3057.7 (+1.1)
FT-SE 350	1635.0 (+2.9)
FT-SE 400	1352.89 (+4.87)
FT-SE 500	1617.62 (+2.7)
FT Non Financials	1738.10 (+1.97)
FT Financials	1123.83 (+0.14)
FT Govt Secs	93.64 (+0.15)
Bargains	2677
SEAC Volume	671.98
USM (Dassault)	1544.4 (+0.02)
USM	15710 (+0.0033)
German Mark	2.2875 (+0.0021)
Exchange Index	14.6 (+0.23)
Index of English Official (close)	1.2132
ESU	1.2227
ESU	1.2227
ESU	1.2227

## RECENT ISSUES

Brit Aero Cap Up p/p	725	+
Dumyat IT An Div	105	...
Dumyat IT Mth Div	105	...
Edinburgh Japan Tr Co	101	...
Fincham World	102	...
General Cable (100)	173	-5
Gus Carter (80)	95	...
Ivory/Sime UK Disc	97	...
Ivory/Sime UK Disc Wst	31	...
Langdon Foods (3)	31	...
Oxy India Wst	250	...
Precoat Intl (125)	135	...
Schroder Int Gth Fund	106	...
Schroder Int Gth Wst	27	...

## RIGHTS ISSUES

Prime People n/p (4)	2	...
Regal Hotel n/p (35)	2	...
Scott & New n/p (475)	29	+

## MAJOR CHANGES

RIBES:	
HSBC	8140 (+4.0)
King Shavon	1140 (+4.0)
Royal Bank Scot	3880 (+4.0)
Young 'A'	4880 (+4.0)
Andrews Sylva	1830 (+10.0)
Eve Group	2240 (+15.0)
J. H. Heston	3190 (+10.0)
Hazell	3190 (+10.0)
Broken Hill	3230 (+8.0)
Mitel	3330 (+7.0)
Paton	3620 (+10.0)
Telepac	4750 (+12.0)
Chubb Sec	3380 (+7.0)
LEMS	2020 (+8.0)
Polysar	4500 (+10.0)
Sage Group	9550 (+15.0)
C. S. S. S. S.	2880 (+6.0)

FALLS:	
Barrat Dews	1820 (-7.0)
Wintrop	1220 (-10.0)
Polysar	1550 (-13.0)
Redland	4500 (-12.0)
Br Aerospace	5370 (-10.0)
GUS	5840 (-16.0)
TJ Hughes	740 (-6.0)
WH Smith	3360 (-6.0)
Storehouse	2380 (-8.0)

Closing Prices Page 28

## TEMPUS

## Pressure Marks

THE unassailable Marks and Spencer was grumbling yesterday that bearish noises from other, less successful retailers, were hurting its share price. If a profit warning from a chain of newswagons is enough to cut share prices across the retail sector, M&S cannot afford to be arrogant. Consumer spending is down and, as Sir Richard Greenbury pointed out yesterday, shoppers are choosy. Whatever the St Michael brand guarantees, it is not customer loyalty.

M&S strove to dismiss the apparently weak sales figures, skewed by the late Easter, as a quirk of the calendar but the results show that shoppers fled the high street in the second half, with the rate of growth in clothing and footwear more than halved on the company's adjusted figures. Of particular concern is home furnishings, where sales fell in real terms and M&S will need to reinvent its strategy to keep sales up

in a housing market showing nil or negative growth. Profits growth of £70 million in such a climate is no mean achievement but the pressure will not ease on M&S as suppliers - impatient after years of recession - demand some relief. Overseas, the outlook is improving after a decision to sacrifice some margin to boost volumes and the company is finally taking action to turn around its disastrous investment in Brooks Brothers.

M&S will share in any pick-up in consumer spending this autumn from recovery and any government handouts but the bigger question is whether M&S margins have peaked in the UK. Suppliers will resist further pain and Sir Richard's defence of staff numbers suggest there is little scope there. With consumers unlikely to fork out more, shareholders may have to settle for slower growth.

## Thorn EMI

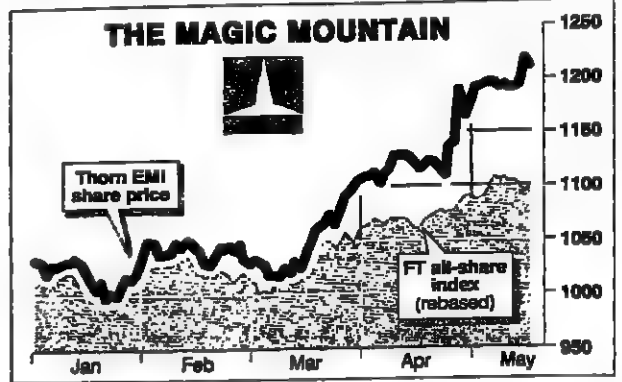
SIR Colin Southgate was back in familiar territory yesterday, wearily talking down suggestions of an imminent demerger of Thorn EMI while refusing to rule out such a move entirely. The latest impetus has come from the FI survey in Thorn's share price since the end of last month when rumours of an approach for the music division from the Walt Disney Corporation surfaced.

The level at which Disney was said to be considering an offer, although probably below what Thorn would find acceptable, reawakened market speculation on what a stand-alone EMI would be worth. The huge back catalogue controlled by EMI is impossible to value by normal means. That would require a view to be taken of the longevity of assets that

have no clear fixed life. Instead, every new deal sets a fresh benchmark on value and ratchets up the price of other catalogues.

Whether Disney will make an offer is irrelevant, therefore, although the betting must be against it. Thorn's price is on the right side of £12 and probably staying there. Sir Colin can afford

not to be too generous with the dividend, and the company will head back to a cover of two times sooner rather than later, which left some analysts reining in their forecast this year even as they increased their profit figures. On an achievable £50 million before tax, the shares now sell on a hefty 17 times' earnings.



## North West Water

NORTH West Water did its best to reassure shareholders that the pricing regime has left it with a large enough margin for comfort to keep the special payouts flowing for the next five years and beyond, barring regulatory or legislative intervention. The forecast is somewhat disingenuous. Over the past five investors have understood one thing about privatised utilities: the returns are more a function of political whim than management skill. The water companies were mollycoddled to persuade investors to take them on, and last year's attempt by the regulator to rein them in left North West relatively unscathed with cost-cutting targets set by Ofwat at 1 per cent.

But the regime could change the imminent risk is a rise in interest rates, but a change of government would

be the greatest danger to investors in water stocks. Whatever the outcome of the vote, water shares will come under pressure as election day looms. The longer-term question of non-core business earnings is still unresolved with a continuing weak performance from North West's process engineering businesses. The alliance with Bechtel provides more substance to North West's overseas ambitions but international contracting is scarcely a high-margin business.

## CMB

SINCE its partial merger with Wheaton fell apart last September, CarnaudMetalbox has looked keen to do a deal, but yesterday's bid by Crown Cork & Seal seems to have caught it by surprise. The driving force behind the deal is Compagnie Industrielle de Participations, which is keen to exchange its 46 per cent stake in CMB for a 24 per cent holding in the world's largest

packaging company. CMB's insistence that this is a true merger looks flimsy since William Avery, CCK's president, is becoming both chairman and chief executive of the enlarged group. CCK's bid is not particularly generous. The 20 per cent premium to market price is probably the lowest that outside investors would accept. Apart from size, there seems little to recommend the merger. CMB is mainly European and CCK largely American, so the scope for cost-savings look limited.

But the deal is unlikely to be the last in the industry. Packaging companies are cash rich but wary of adding capacity when demand may be peaking. Multinational consumer goods companies want their suppliers to be equally international, and some British packaging companies may soon be cast in the role of predators or targets.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

## COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE	
May	94.00-94.01
Jun	94.00-94.01
Jul	94.00-94.01
Aug	94.00-94.01
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## Sustenance at British Gas

THE number of British Gas shareholders determined to attend next week's annual general meeting is growing by the hour. By 10am yesterday, 6,646 said they will be turning up at the London Arena on May 31. A week ago, the count stood at 2,310. The opportunity to secure a ringside seat to stare into the eyes of chairman Richard Goodwin and chief executive Cadric Brown, as they defend high levels of executive pay, is obviously not one to be missed. There may never be an agm quite like this again. There is no knowing how long the agm will last, but British Gas promises to lay on light refreshments. The way the postbag is growing, the chefs had better start cutting up more sandwiches.

## ... but no Xtras

THE high tea at the Halifax annual meetings has been legendary in Yorkshire. Members have travelled from far and wide and filled their handbags with scones and sandwiches — for the journey home. Not this year though, as they arrived at 2.30pm to vote on the merger of Halifax and Leeds, members saw that there were to be no refreshments. Lack of sustenance did not deter members from discussing the merits of the takeover and the general business of the world's largest mortgage lender. The last word was spoken at almost 7pm.



Wisdom: in his heyday

DECORUM at Guildhall may be a little strained tomorrow. Among those applying for the Freedom of the City of London is Norman Wisdom, the comedian. Will he wear his famed cloth cap? Also seeking permission to drive sheep over London Bridge is Peter Selwyn Gummer, chairman of PR group Shandwick.

## Indirect line

A BBC team set up within the Lloyd's building yesterday to report on latest developments, and anxious to hear both sides, had difficulty in interviewing Christopher Stockwell within the Lloyd's building. Stockwell, head of the Association of Lloyd's Names, was, reportedly, denied permission to enter. The BBC spoke to him by telephone.

## Rescued

LAING & Cruickshank Investment Management, the private client firm of Credit Lyonnais Laing, yesterday scooped up three senior investment directors from Quilter Goodson — Nigel Lloyd, Richard Legge and John Nicholas — a defection which is said to have rocked parent Commercial Union. But for the efficiency of the rescue services, the broker might have been announcing that a vacancy had arisen for a chief executive. CCL's chief executive Michael Kerr-Dineen was out walking along the shore line off the Cornish coast at the weekend when he was stranded by high tide. He had to be winched to safety by helicopter.

COLIN CAMPBELL

# Lloyd's names look for devil in the detail of £2.8bn offer

Sarah Bagnall  
reports on the latest  
attempt by the  
insurance market to  
settle with its names

Lloyd's of London's latest olive branch, offering £2.8 billion to end the mass of legal actions brought by more than 17,000 names, is far from a done deal. While the increased settlement package compares favourably with the £900 million offered to names in May 1993, the chances of the latest offer being accepted hinges on exactly how the cake will be sliced up. This, however, has yet to be decided.

Tense negotiations between Lloyd's and the 44 different action groups will now kick off. But no clearer picture is expected to emerge for months and only then will it become apparent whether Lloyd's has won its battle to end the legal actions.

As Michael Deeny, chairman of the Goodwin Walker Action Group, said: "The devil will be in the detail."

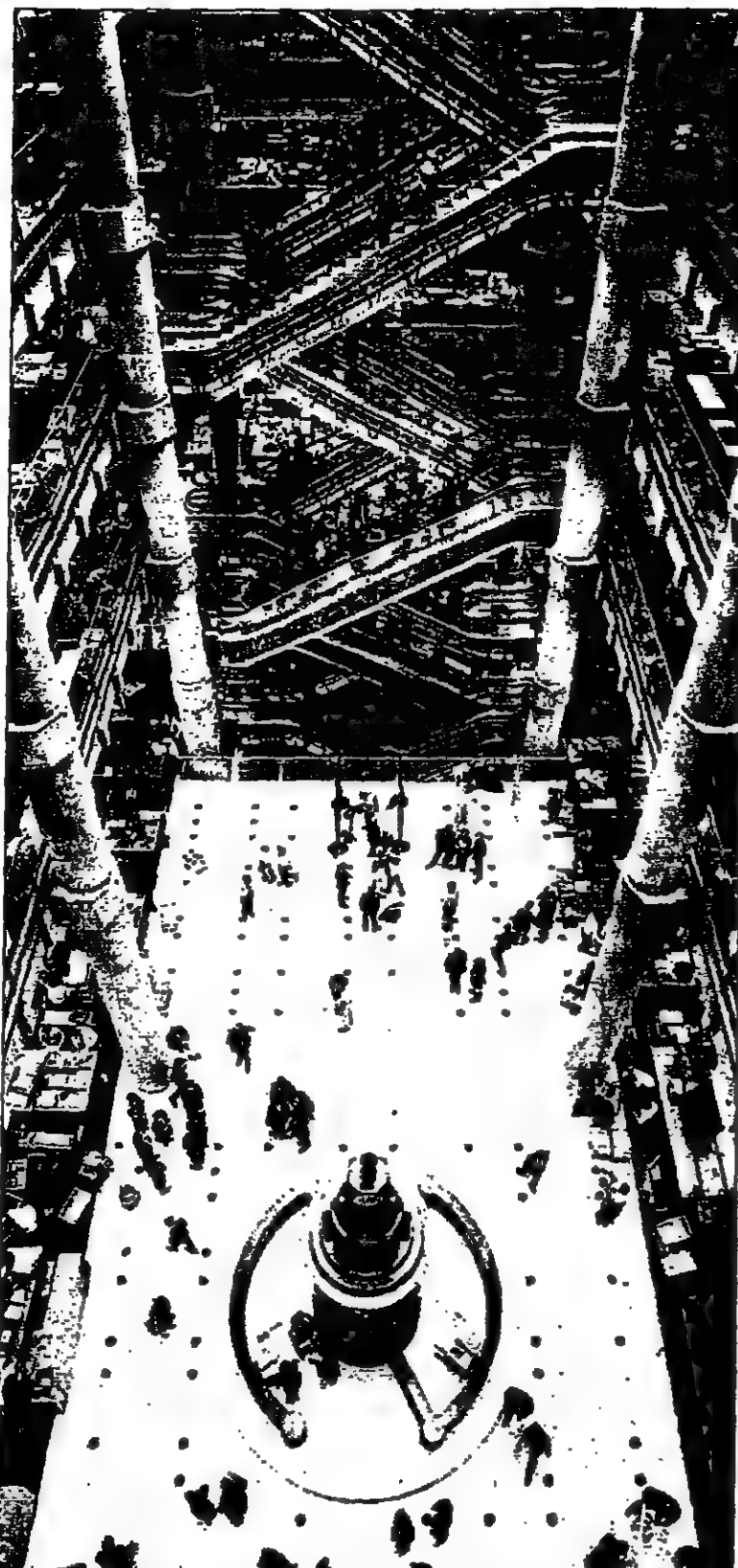
In the meantime, the best that can be done is to assess the deal on a macro level. The latest offer of £2.8 billion is more than three times larger than the original offer — appearing to vindicate the names' decision to reject the first offer and to continue the process of taking court action.

Also in the new offer's favour is that it contains a plan to cap names' losses and, theoretically, free thousands of names in the process from any further involvement with the market. The first offer foundered partly because it failed to give names any finality to their predicament. That is, names were being asked to hand over their rights to litigate without knowing what further losses were going to hit them in the future.

The latest offer has tackled this issue and includes the plan to form a new reinsurance company, Equitas, which will take on names' old-year liabilities for a fee. In theory, this process enables the names to exit the market once and for all. However, Equitas is a reinsurance company and if it were to collapse its debts would revert back to the names. Convincing names that Equitas will be adequately funded, therefore, is critical to the success of the latest offer.

Lloyd's calculates that it will cost about £5.9 billion to transfer all 1992 and prior years' liabilities from names to Equitas, of which the largest chunk is £2 billion of losses that names have not yet been asked to pay. The £5.9 billion is over and above the reserves of about £10 billion already set aside to meet these liabilities.

Of the £5.9 billion, £2.8 billion comes from the planned settlement offer. This in turn comes from various sources. About £800 million comes from errors and omissions insurers and equates to the amount the names would expect to receive from the courts. This figure is significantly less than the total damages names might be expected to win through the courts because there is a large shortfall in the amount of insurance cover available to meet the



Names' existing liabilities would pass to a new reinsurance company

swards. The sum may rise if other parties involved in litigation, such as auditors, join the party.

While the £800 million will be paid out to names as cash, the remaining £2.8 billion of the settlement package is in the form of debt credits — or debt write-offs — which are to be used to fund names' entry into Equitas. Names will get their first idea of the cost of reinsuring their liabilities to Equitas in October.

Of this £2 billion, £1.1 billion comes from writing off names' debts to a central fund. That is, at the end of this year Lloyd's expects to have £1.1 billion

of losses that have been "earmarked" against the central fund — these will be written off. A further £900 million of unpaid debts that are deemed uncollectable will also be written off.

As a result, under the plans, names who owe Lloyd's money but cannot meet their debts will have their debts written off while names deemed able to pay their debts will be pursued through the courts by Lloyd's and the Lloyd's agencies.

In the document published yesterday, entitled *Lloyd's reconstruction and renewal*, the distribution of the £2 billion of debt credits will be to "assist

those names who, by virtue of having suffered disproportionately large losses, will have the greatest difficulty in meeting their 'finality' bills."

In return for accepting the £2.8 billion settlement package names have to give up their litigation rights.

Deducting the £2.8 billion from the £5.9 billion needed to fund Equitas, leaves an estimated £3.1 billion still to find. This again comes from various sources. There is £1.5 billion of names' funds held at Lloyd's, which Lloyd's says it will draw down if names refuse to pay the £2 billion of debts that have yet to be called.

A further £800 million is being paid over by names who are still underwriting under Lloyd's plan to release early part of the profits from the 1993, 1994 and 1995 years of account. This will be achieved either by the planned move to one-year accounting or by special approval by the authorities. On top of this is an estimated £600 million that Lloyd's believes it will be able to collect from names.

The total sum will, however, be reduced by an estimated £200 million that will be paid to names who have paid all their debts to Lloyd's. If all these cash flows and accounting machinations work out, Equitas will start out life with funding of £5.5 billion, leaving a residual £400 million that is expected to be collected over time.

David Rowland, Lloyd's chairman, said the successful setting up of Equitas would mean ongoing names would be ring-fenced from the past. There would be no further levies for Equitas and names would be free to leave the market if they wished. He said: "We undertake never to chase you again for debts."

The plan does not end there. Lloyd's plans to strengthen its central finances by raising up to £900 million from names, both corporate and traditional, managing and members' agents and by obtaining external finance against the society's assets.

The names are being asked to contribute £450 million in the form of a loan, the agents are offering £200 million and Lloyd's is attempting to raise a further £200 million to £250 million which could be via a sale and leaseback of the society's assets.

Mr Rowland said the reconstruction and settlement offer "marks a critical juncture in the history of Lloyd's". He added that the new Lloyd's would be free of 1992 and prior-year liabilities and a new central fund of £300 million would be set up, comprising £100 million in cash and £200 million of commitments.

The general reaction to the plan was one of cautious optimism, but action group leaders were quick to stress that there were many important details still to be thrashed out. None of the action groups are expected to stop the litigation process until they are sure a firm offer is on the table. The basis for allocating the settlement package will be revealed in October, but the deal, if successful, will still not be signed and sealed until next spring.

In order for the plan to become reality it will have to be approved through a vote. There will need to be a vote from names because the £450 million loan is in fact a levy — equal to about 1.5 per cent of capacity for the 1993, 1994 and 1995 years of account.



ANTHONY HARRIS

## House prices: Hamlet minus the Prince

Not another article on house prices? I'm sorry, but yes, up to a point at least the point being the one which all the gloomy forecasts of recent days (all of them right, no doubt) seem to have missed. This is that the current housing slump should not have come as a surprise to anyone, and especially not to those paid by the building societies to forecast demand. It was in our stars all along.

The earliest projection appeared some 30 years ago, in a book published by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research (which must wish that all its forecasts were so accurate). It was based not on fallible economics, but on the most reliable of all the social sciences, demographics; and it caused almost no stir in the housing industry, because all the sensible developers in those days employed demographers of their own. They knew what we (apart from Roger Bootle, who did mention the subject in passing in his forecast) seem to have forgotten: the first step in market research is to count your prospective customers.

That is what demographers do. But nowadays we only seem to hear about them when we are thinking about the horrors of the coming pensions crisis (sometimes to comfort ourselves with the thought that things will be even worse across the Channel). Yet properly used, population studies tell us much more than economic theory, not only about pensions and housing demand but about future tax burdens and even future stock market trends. It is the changing age composition of the population that more than anything else determines not just the net demand for housing, but the flow of revenue and the demands on it, and the net supply of new savings. In Japan, it has long been the ruling obsession of economic strategists — here, a forgotten footnote. Yet it packs a punch. Consider housing, for a start. Most people set up house for the first time between the ages of 20 and 30 — a group that peaked at 8.2 million as recently as 1989. By next year, it is projected at 7.2 million, and by the turn of the millennium at only 6.4 million: it is

not until 2021 that it creeps above 7 million again. Yet all through this period the number reaching retiring age, some of whom will sell houses in working centres, is near constant at the end of this decade at around 2.5 million, and then takes off to 3.2 million in 2011. More supply, less demand: elementary.

OK, developers tend to reply to this as such: but what about rising income standards and rising divorce rates? Yes; but both these trends may have peaked. More important, the main effect of rising monetary demand is not on housing standards, but on land prices; even today very few private developments reach the space standards laid down as a minimum for council houses in the Parker-Morris report back in the 1940s. Rising standards bid up old houses, not new ones. And demography still dominates in Germany, where the ageing process started earlier, house prices lagged incomes for decades before reunification.

Now consider taxpayers and tax burdens. The school age population, one expensive group, is at a peak now at a touch over 10.5 million (which explains some of the news), but remains pretty stable for the next 30 years. But medicine threatens an explosion of the really expensive over-75s, at 3.5 million now, 3.9 million by the end of the decade, 4.3 million by 2021 and more than 5 million by 2031. Do not believe any long-range tax promises. And then think about saving and investment: is the pension fund of UK Plc nearing maturity, the point at which contributions fall behind payments? And what does that imply for the flow of investible funds?

Disturbing questions; no answers, in this column at any rate. The whole subject is much too big for here and now. But I hope to have convinced you that this is a remarkably precise science — reliably precise, because most of the subject matter is people now alive. A short study would have enabled you to predict much of this year's news of housing slump and pensions crisis a decade or more ago. Worth some attention, surely.

Yours faithfully,  
STELLA M. LILLEY,  
Kingsdown Park House,  
Tankerton,  
Kent.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

## Eric Reguly weighs up potential rival bidders for C&W

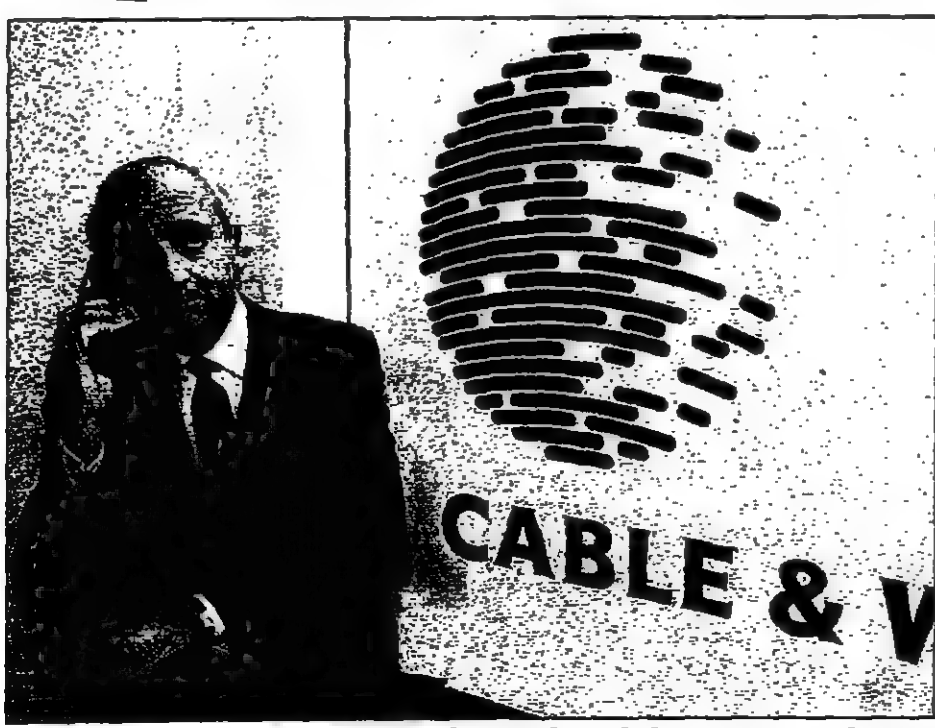
# Global operator ripe for takeover

Cable and Wireless is a sitting duck. Speculation is growing in the City that C&W, which is expected to report annual pre-tax profits of about £820 million tomorrow, looms in the cross hairs of British Telecom, AT&T and possibly other groups with international ambitions and deep pockets. C&W is attractive because it is the only telecoms company that can legitimately claim to be a global operator.

The speculation intensified last week when Sir Iain Vallance, BT's chairman, made it clear that the company's future lies in foreign markets. Domestic market share, largely because of competition from cable telephony companies, is on the wane, while the regulatory risks remain as large as ever. AT&T, America's largest overseas phone carrier, is BT's arch rival in the race to create a seamless international telecoms network. "These companies want to go global," said John Tysoe, an analyst at Strauss Turnbull Securities.

C&W would give its owner operations on five continents, ranging from a monopoly operation in the Caribbean to a controlling interest in Hong Kong Telecom, the dominant player in the world's fastest growing market. Hong Kong Telecom is by far the most valuable holding in C&W's portfolio: the market assigns relatively little worth to the rest of the company. No bid makes sense unless the new owner develops a strategy to ramp up the value of non-Hong Kong Telecom bits.

The C&W empire, whose history dates back to 1866, when Sir John Pender's Great



Ring the changes? Lord Young, who is known to love a deal, stands to make a fortune

Eastern steamship laid the first transatlantic cable, includes mobile-phone licences in Japan: a 25 per cent stake in Optus, Australia's second largest phone company; 80 per cent of Mercury Communications, joint ventures in the former Soviet Union; and a partnership with Verba, the German industrial conglomerate that is the first link in its pan-European network.

Price is the chief takeover deterrent. Based on its current trading price of about 410p a share, C&W's market value approaches £9 billion. But it is impossible to imagine that any bid of less than 500p — the shares have been as high as

478p in the past year — would warrant consideration from Lord Young, who became chairman in 1990. At 550p, an acquirer would have to pay almost £12 billion for the company and a bidding war could take it much higher.

Only two takeovers in history — KKR's purchase of RJR Nabisco for \$25 billion and Taiyoo Kobe Bank's \$23 billion merger with Mitsui Bank — would be larger.

Nonetheless, buyers might be tempted to move because the shares are nowhere near their high of 538p, reached in early 1994. The current low price, and less intimidating price-to-earnings ratio, means a takeover financed with shares would be less dilutive.

On the financial front, BT has the advantage over AT&T. BT is enormously profitable — it just reported a pre-tax profit of £2.66 billion in 1994-95 — and, more importantly, its gearing is just 18 per cent. AT&T's balance sheet is less healthy because it is digesting last year's purchase of McCaw Cellular Communications for \$12.6 billion. Its gearing, depending on whether you use American or British accounting rules, ranges from 35 per cent to more than 50 per cent.

BT's financial well-being. While BT wins on the financial front, it loses on the political front. There is no doubt a bid for C&W would trigger a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry. BT might emerge intact only if it unloads Mercury, BT's main domestic competitor. AT&T could pick it up as a consolation prize in a distress sale. AT&T, which is searching for a European base, has been in talks to buy Mercury for a year or so.

It appears that buying all of C&W would present AT&T with few political problems. The Conservative Government has shown absolutely no bias against foreign ownership. Furthermore, the Government would like to see Mercury get back on its feet and compete vigorously with BT. With AT&T's muscle behind it, it could do just that.

The Government retains a golden share in C&W, allowing it to veto purchases of more than 15 per cent, but the City, as one analyst put it, considers it "fool's gold".

How fiercely would Lord Young guard C&W's independence? He is known as a sharp operator who loves a deal. He, like any corporate boss, would entertain any offer that would soak the buyer to enrich the owners. Lord Young, of course, would benefit himself. At last count, he had almost one million share options, the majority of them granted at 210p. A takeover could earn him millions.

## THE TIMES RENTALS

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## THYSSEN AKTIENGESellschaft

United Kingdom shareholders are advised that copies of the Interim Report of the Thyssen Group for the first six months of the fiscal year 1994/95 (from October 1, 1994 to March 31, 1995) are now available from S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd., Paying Agency, 2 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA.

Düsseldorf, May 1995

The Executive Board



**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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1995 Low Company Price +/- % P/E					1995 Low Company Price +/- % P/E					1995 Low Company Price +/- % P/E					1995 Low Company Price +/- % P/E											
11	London	15	2.2	32	172	Swedish	15	1	2.5	171	Swedish	15	1	2.5	233	174	British	23	4	5.0	24	4	5.0	24	4	5.0
12	London	15	2.2	32	173	Swedish	15	1	2.5	172	Swedish	15	1	2.5	234	175	British	23	4	5.0	25	4	5.0	25	4	5.0
13	London	15	2.2	32	174	Swedish	15	1	2.5	173	Swedish	15	1	2.5	235	176	British	23	4	5.0	26	4	5.0	26	4	5.0
14	London	15	2.2	32	175	Swedish	15	1	2.5	174	Swedish	15	1	2.5	236	177	British	23	4	5.0	27	4	5.0	27	4	5.0
15	London	15	2.2	32	176	Swedish	15	1	2.5	175	Swedish	15	1	2.5	237	178	British	23	4	5.0	28	4	5.0	28	4	5.0
16	London	15	2.2	32	177	Swedish	15	1	2.5	176	Swedish	15	1	2.5	238	179	British	23	4	5.0	29	4	5.0	29	4	5.0
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35	London	15	2.2	32	196	Swedish	15	1	2.5	195	Swedish	15	1	2.5	257	198	British	23	4	5.0	48	4	5.0	48	4	5.0
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45	London	15	2.2	32	206	Swedish	15	1	2.5	205	Swedish	15	1	2.5	267	208	British	23	4	5.0	58	4	5.0	58	4	5.0
46	London	15	2.2	32	207	Swedish	15	1	2.5	206	Swedish	15	1	2.5	268	209	British	23	4	5.0	59	4	5.0	59	4	5.0
47	London	15	2.2	32	208	Swedish	15	1	2.5	207	Swedish	15	1	2.5	269	210	British	23	4	5.0	60	4	5.0	60	4	5.0
48	London	15	2.2	32	209	Swedish	15	1	2.5	208	Swedish	15	1	2.5	270	211	British	23	4	5.0	61	4	5.0	61	4	5.0
49	London	15	2.2	32	210	Swedish	15	1	2.5	209	Swedish	15	1	2.5	271	212	British	23	4	5.0	62	4	5.0	62	4	5.0
50	London	15	2.2	32	211	Swedish	15	1	2.5	210	Swedish	15	1	2.5	272	213	British	23	4	5.0	63	4	5.0	63	4	5.0
51	London	15	2.2	32	212	Swedish	15	1	2.5	211	Swedish	15	1	2.5	273	214	British	23	4	5.0	64	4	5.0	64	4	5.0
52	London	15	2.2	32	213	Swedish	15	1	2.5	212	Swedish	15	1	2.5	274	215	British	23	4	5.0	65	4	5.0	65	4	5.0
53	London	15	2.2	32	214	Swedish	15	1	2.5	213	Swedish	15	1	2.5	275	216	British	23	4	5.0	66	4	5.0	66	4	5.0
54	London	15	2.2	32	215	Swedish	15	1	2.5	214	Swedish	15	1	2.5	276	217	British	23	4	5.0	67	4	5.0	67	4	5.0
55	London	15	2.2	32	216	Swedish	15	1	2.5	215	Swedish	15	1	2.5	277	218	British	23	4	5.0	68	4	5.0	68	4	5.0
56	London	15	2.2	32	217	Swedish	15	1	2.5	216	Swedish	15	1	2.5	278	219	British	23	4	5.0	69	4	5.0	69	4	5.0
57	London	15	2.2	32	218	Swedish	15	1	2.5	217	Swedish	15	1	2.5	279	220	British	23	4	5.0	70	4	5.0	70	4	5.0
58	London	15	2.2	32	219	Swedish	15	1	2.5	218	Swedish	15	1	2.5	280	221	British	23	4	5.0	71	4	5.0	71	4	5.0
59	London	15	2.2	32	220	Swedish	15	1	2.5	219	Swedish	15	1	2.5	281	222	British	23	4	5.0	72	4	5.0	72	4	5.0
60	London	15	2.2	32	221	Swedish	15	1	2.5	220	Swedish	15	1	2.5	282	223	British	23	4	5.0	73	4	5.0	73	4	5.0
61	London	15	2.2	32	222	Swedish	15	1	2.5	221	Swedish	15	1	2.5	283	224	British	23	4	5.0	74	4	5.0	74	4	5.0
62	London	15	2.2	32	223	Swedish	15	1	2.5	222	Swedish	15	1	2.5	284	225	British	23	4	5.0	75	4	5.0	75	4	5.0
63	London	15	2.2	32	224	Swedish	15	1	2.5	223	Swedish	15	1	2.5	285	226	British	23	4	5.0	76	4	5.0	76	4	5.0
64	London	15	2.2	32	225	Swedish	15	1	2.5	224	Swedish	15	1	2.5	286	227	British	23	4	5.0	77	4	5.0	77	4	5.0
65	London	15	2.2	32	226	Swedish	15	1	2.5	225	Swedish	15	1	2.5	287	228	British	23	4	5.0	78	4	5.0	78	4	5.0
66	London	15	2.2	32	227	Swedish	15	1	2.5	226	Swedish	15	1	2.5	288	229	British	23	4	5.0	79	4	5.0	79	4	5.0
67	London	15	2.2	32	228	Swedish	15	1	2.5	227	Swedish	15	1	2.5	289	230	British	23	4	5.0	80	4	5.0	80	4	5.0
68	London	15	2.2	32	229	Swedish	15	1	2.5	228	Swedish	15	1	2.5	290	231	British	23	4	5.0	81	4	5.0	81	4	5.0
69	London	15	2.2	32	230	Swedish	15	1	2.5	229	Swedish	15	1	2.5	291	232	British	23	4	5.0	82	4	5.0	82	4	5.0
70	London	15	2.2	32	231	Swedish	15	1	2.5	230	Swedish	15	1	2.5	292	233	British	23	4	5.0	83	4	5.0	83	4	5.0
71	London	15	2.2	32	232	Swedish	15	1	2.5	231	Swedish	15	1	2.5	293	234	British	23	4	5.0	84	4	5.0	84	4	5.0
72	London	15	2.2	32	233	Swedish	15	1	2.5	232	Swedish	15	1													

1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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The Heritage Minister's paper on cross-media ownership leaves some vital decisions still hanging in the air

Not so much a mouse, more a can of worms. Stephen Dorrell's long-awaited paper on cross-media ownership emerged yesterday from his Department of National Heritage to raise as many questions as it answers. For example: what practical difference will it make?

Nothing in it will make any of the concentrations of newspaper ownership immediately give up anything they now own. Nothing will allow the biggest holders of stakes in ITV to hold bigger stakes still. Nothing in it will quiet some of the fears raised by media leaders this month: about access to encryption technology, about Classic FM, about Channel 4.

But some big changes are clear amid the percentage signs and murky distinctions between primary and secondary legislation to achieve short-term and long-term goals of media regulation.

● The old barriers between print

and screen, are down: official. The media market — newspapers plus broadcasting — has been recognised to be a whole.

● Independent Television News is to remain in the control of the ITV companies. They had been under orders to sell a controlling share in ITN to outside shareholders in a matter of months. But now a battle which in recent years some fought hard and lost has been won. The ITV companies, which are ITN's biggest customer and were originally the founder of the news service, will be allowed to own more than 50 per cent of the company. This is good news for ITN (because it ensures continuity); less good for two of ITV's biggest owners, Carlton and Gra-

nada, because nothing proposed yesterday removes their obligation to reduce their own shareholdings within ITN to 20 per cent. Divestiture for them at least will be a reality.

● Local radio will never be so local again. The limit on the number of licences which can be held will be raised from 20 to 35. In other words, big radio networks will form, with pockets of local opt-

outlets.

● That nebulous quality, "the public interest", is defined in economic terms: the right for new companies to enter, survive and grow in the changing media environment is seen as the best guarantee of diversity of opinion.

● The Independent Television



BRENDA MADDOX

Commission will gain in power. In the long run, says yesterday's document, a new regulator may be created to supervise cross-media ventures. But in the short run, it is the ITC which will decide whether the newly allowed acquisitions of

terrestrial television licences by British newspapers are in the public interest.

● The media are not just another industry. Diversity of opinion, which they provide, is too important to be regulated solely by the existing national anti-monopoly, pro-competition agencies.

Mr Dorrell was very insistent on this vital point. How odd, therefore, that his policy paper proposes to leave one of the most controversial issues in media concentration to existing competition law and the Office of Fair Trading. It is especially odd because David Glencross, chief executive of the (now newly powerful) ITC, this month declared that special legislation would be necessary, at home

and across Europe, to make sure that, when digital television arrives, the set-top box, or decoder, which allows access to subscription channels, remains accessible to all those who want to sell pay-TV services to the public.

Delivering the annual Goodman lecture, Mr Glencross disputed the view held by BSkyB (the satellite company partly owned by News International, parent company of The Times) that voluntary agreements between broadcasters will be sufficient to ensure fair entry for newcomers. He called for common access to be made legally compulsory. He raised the possibility that a broadcasting organisation (he

was too tactful to mention BSkyB by name) which not only sells its own satellite channels but also owns the set-top encryption system in widest use, would be in a position to set the price of admission into the digital pay-TV market for its potential competitors.

On this matter, Mr Dorrell said yesterday that he is willing to trust the director-general of Fair Trading. Perhaps the Heritage Secretary, whose red-rimmed eyes suggest what this policy document has cost him, is wise to leave some matters for others to decide. Still waiting on his desk are decisions on digital television, on the financing of the British film industry, on television transmission, on the future of the BBC and maybe on privacy law. That is a lot of homework to finish before his expected exit from the department whose name he may yet turn from the Ministry of Fun into the Ministry of Heavy Industry.

## Cuddle up with a customer and get rich

In the future, says Don Peppers, our needs will be met by companies that know us intimately. Alan Mitchell reports

The language of marketing rings with the jargon of war. Consumers are "targeted" through advertising "campaigns" which run in "bursts". Direct marketing, which is often counterposed to advertising, merely uses different methods: it is a "rifle shot" as opposed to a "scatter gun".

All this is about to change, business executives were told yesterday at a Royal Mail conference on the emergence of personal, or one-to-one marketing. Cutting edge marketers are abandoning adversarial marketing and making love not war.

The chief proponent of this message was Don Peppers, the American marketing guru, who was making his first public appearance in Britain. Marketers, he believes, should be cuddling up close to their customers, earning their trust and collaborating with them in designing and delivering the products and services they want.

Instead of spending a fortune researching, designing, making and advertising their products, the most successful companies will turn the whole process on its head, asking individual customers to specify exactly what they want and then delivering it to them.

This will be possible, says Peppers, a former advertising executive, because of rapid

advances in computing and communications technology. A combination of interactive media and computerised manufacturing technologies means that marketers will be able to mass-customise: offering coffee or tea blended just the way you like it; a swimsuit that's made to fit and flatter only you; or a car with the specific combination of colours, style, size, and added extras you alone choose.

Together, Peppers says, these advances are already beginning to turn traditional marketing structures and practices "completely upside down".

The most powerful marketing organisation of the future, he suggests, will be neither the traditional branded goods manufacturer nor the currently all-powerful retail chain. It will be a different beast altogether. In its past, it may have made or distributed goods or services, but now it derives its special power from its close and trusting relationship with consumers. They confide their needs and desires to it in the secure knowledge that their confidences will not be betrayed. Their privacy will be protected, but they will still get one of the best deals around.

How? If you want to go on a skiing holiday, the "inform-



Don Peppers has seen the future: coffee blended to your taste; swimsuits made to your shape; and tailor-made cars

ation broker" will make this selling opportunity known to travel agents and tour operators. It will then pass on the best offers that most closely match your requirements. Only if you decide to buy a

particular holiday will any travel company get to know your name and address. And when you return from the trip, the broker will ask you how it went, so that its other customers can benefit from your

experience. Likewise, if you want to get a whiter wash for your delicates, it might tell you that most customers have found that Brand X is best for the job.

Companies like this, Peppers says, will make their money because they have "learning relationships" with consumers. Individual customers teach the company more and more about their own preferences and needs,

and the more they do so, the better the company can provide exactly what they want, when, where, and how. Provided it can keep their trust (and maintain competitive prices and quality), it has an almost unbeatable marketing edge.

Such learning relationships may be initiated at the purchase of a single product or service. But increasingly, Peppers predicts, they will be built by "learning brokers" whose expertise lies in matching other firms' products and services to meet existing customers' requirements. Such companies will leave traditional market share wars to desperate commodity suppliers. Their focus is on "customer share" — a bigger slice of each customer's spending.

In future, Peppers suggests, instead of having companies employ product or brand managers whose job is to find customers for their products, they will employ new-style customer managers whose main task is to find products for their customers. Instead of brands vying for our cash, companies will be jostling for our trust.

If Peppers is right, many traditional marketing practices are due for an overhaul.

Instead of marketers targeting consumers to sell products they have already made, consumers will indicate their needs to marketers who will then compete to meet them. Traditional one-way advertising from company to consumer will give way to dialogues between consumers and companies.

Instead of consumers going to stores to choose from a bewildering array of products, marketers will congregate around "virtual bazaars" run by learning brokers to sell an array of sales prospects.

Peppers peppers his conversation with examples of companies which, he claims, are edging towards this brave new marketing world: from the flower seller who sends clients when their mother-in-law's birthday is, to home shopping companies which log each transaction, building an ever-expanding database on each customer.

Fully fledged, one-to-one marketing, he concedes, is still a long way away. But just as many of the powerful brands that were spawned in the very earliest days of mass marketing and mass advertising still dominate their markets today, so those companies that are first to move beyond adversarial marketing to embrace collaboration with the customer could dominate tomorrow's marketing landscape.

### Graham Allen on Labour's liking for community-based networks

Speculation about which consortium of media players will win the Channel 5 television licence has drowned out public debate about what kind of service the station might usefully offer to viewers. An early possibility that Channel 5 might be used for a network of local or city stations has faded and attention has focused on the size of the applicants' wallets and their plans to create a national entertainment service.

The avenues for creating a local TV network in the UK are not, however, closed. This summer the Department of National Heritage is expected to publish a consultation document on digital terrestrial television to allow the creation of 12 to 16 terrestrial stations.

The Labour Party believes that the digital round of bidding will permit the Independent Television Commission and the next Government to put right the missed opportunities of the past so there is adequate provision for local programming and local channels. Labour will ensure that the digital revolution can spawn many local channels. Such a shift in emphasis will, we hope, encourage the BBC and ITV to re-engineer their resources towards local broadcasting opportunities.

A Labour government would also seek to deliver an energising boost to local TV throughout Britain by encouraging Channel 5, cable television and others to innovate with quality local channels.

The case for a local or city-based network, offering some-

thing genuinely different from existing terrestrial broadcasting, is stronger than ever. Just as cable and satellite owners are realising that their viewers want more domestic programmes, so they will realise that local channels could be a unique advantage.

Local television would ensure cultural, economic, social and ethnic differences in Britain found life on the screen, democratically enabling a plurality of views to flourish. It would counter the withering of regional television and threaten the dominance of London-based, broadcasting elites. By connecting citizens to each other, local TV can regenerate a sense of community and shared identity.

Viewer demand for such a service seems to be strong. A 1993 ITC study found that 74 per cent of those involved wanted more media coverage of their locality. Some cable companies are already exploring ways of broadcasting about and with, rather than simply to, a community. Take Diamond Cable, serving a cluster of Midlands towns,

## TV power to the people



Graham Allen: revolution

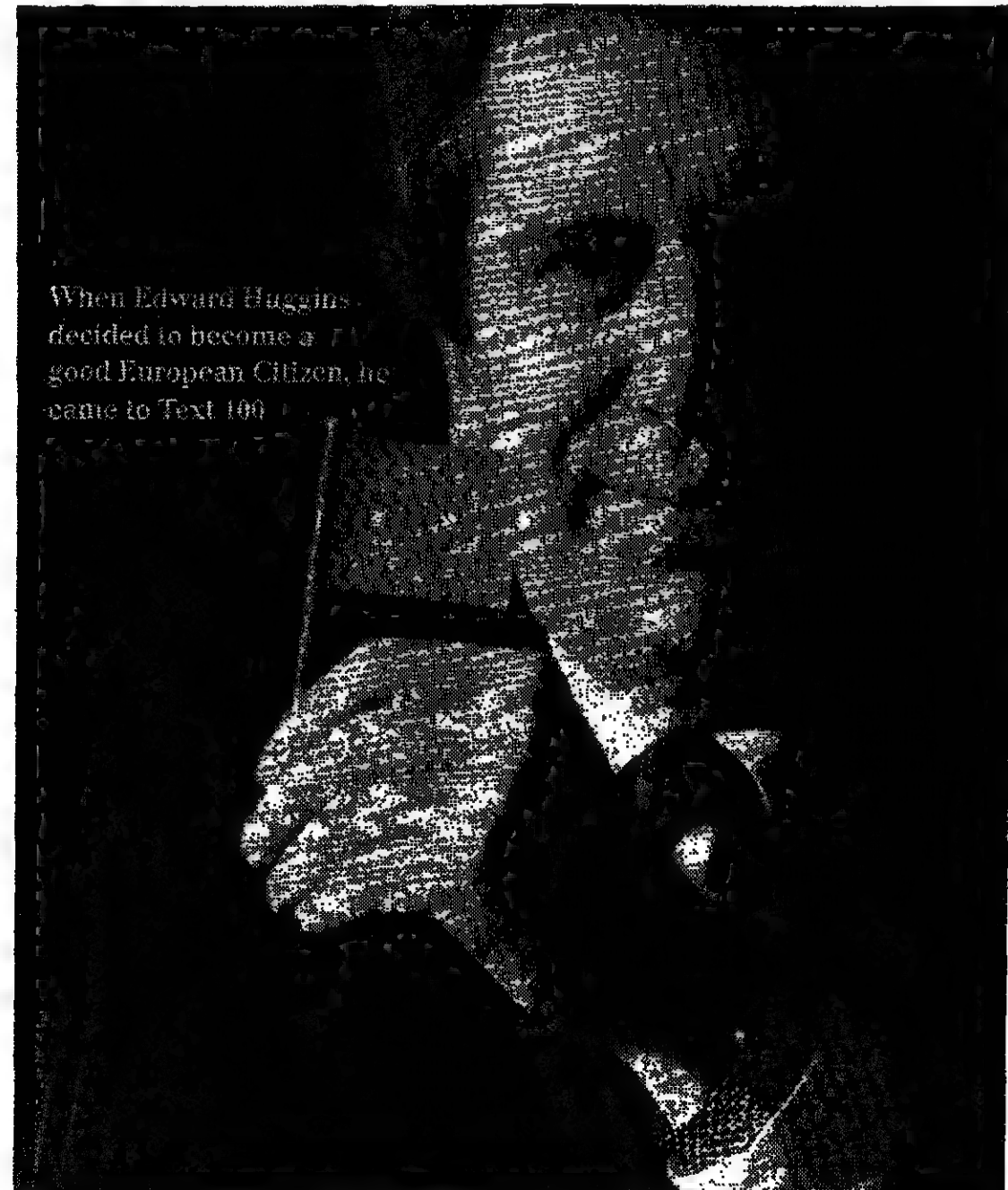
with a network enabling local opt-outs for programming of interest to specific communities. Diamond is working in partnership with Nottingham's local council, providing the facilities to make programmes about council activities for screening on a newly expanded local channel. Broadcast time is offered to local colleges, employment trainers and organisers of community events for locally made programmes.

Labour will explore ways of empowering the ITC to insist on a strong local element in cable broadcasting, particularly where cable companies are reaping rich financial rewards from accessing the streets of our communities. The ITC should also consider ways of involving local people in running local channels, blending the genuine exercising of democratic choice with commercial viability. Perhaps this could be achieved by a devolved ITC structure able to allocate local frequencies and channels.

We should look to promote universal access to local services in order to enable universal involvement in community broadcasting. Encouraging the entry of BT into the provision of entertainment services holds out the possibility of 92 per cent of the population (telephone users) accessing that which only 5 per cent (cable users) can access now, immediately making local advertising, and therefore local channels, viable.

After almost 60 years of television, we still allow a small elite to control the entirety of broadcasting and for all 58 million of us. It is time to broaden the involvement of citizens in television, to counter the erosion of diversity in the search for mass audiences and to begin a democratic process of returning our rich broadcast culture to the needs of the local viewer.

● The author is Shadow Minister for Media.



When Edward Huggins decided to become a truly European Citizen, he came to Text 100

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### THE TIMES TV TOP 10: OVER 55s VERSUS UNDER 55s

May 6 and 7, 1995									
Programme	Date	Time	Channel	Producer	Genre	Audience (millions)	Over 55s	Under 55s	All 4+
1 VEGE-Celebration Concert	Sun 07	18.01	BBC1	BBC	Entertainment	6.4	3.2	3.2	6.6
2 News And Weather	Sun 07	18.00	BBC1	BBC News & CA	News	5.9	3.2	2.7	5.9
3 Antiques Roadshow	Sun 07	17.15	BBC1	BBC Features	Lifestyle	4.9	4.0	0.9	4.9
4 Prime Suspect	Sun 07	21.00	ITV	Granada Television	Drama Series	4.7	3.8	0.9	4.7
5 As Time Goes By	Sun 07	20.10	BBC	D.L. Telford	Sit-com	4.2	3.0	1.2	4.2
6 News	Sat 06	22.03	ITV	ITN	News	4.1	3.9	0.2	4.1
7 Songs Of Praise	Sat 06	19.25	SBC1	SBC	Religious	3.8	1.6	2.2	3.8
8 Inspector Morse	Sat 06	20.04	ITV	Zerith Prods	Drama Series	3.7	3.2	0.5	3.7
9 The National Lottery Live	Sat 06	19.49	BBC1	BBC	Entertainment	3.4	2.6	0.8	3.4
10 News 45/VE Day	Sat 07	21.01	BBC1	BBC	Documentary	3.3	2.7	0.6	3.3
Under 55s									
1 Prime Suspect	Sun 07	21.03	ITV	Granada Television	Drama Series	4.8	8.4	13.2	13.2
2 The National Lottery Live	Sat 06	19.49	BBC1	BBC	Entertainment	3.4	6.8	10.0	10.0
3 Bugs	Sat 06	20.08	BBC1	Carnival Films	Drama Series	2.5	6.4	8.9	8.9
4 New Adventures Of Superman	Sat 06	18.24	BBC1	Warner	Drama	1.8	5.1	6.7	6.7
5 Shine On Harvey Moon	Sun 07	20.20	ITV	Westend Prods	Sit-com	2.9	5.1	8.0	8.0
6 News	Sun 07	22.03	ITV	ITN	News	2.6	4.9	7.7	7.7
7 Surprise Surprise	Sun 07	19.29	ITV	LWT	Entertainment	3.0	4.5	7.5	7.5
8 News, Sport And Weather	Sat 06	20.55	BBC1	BBC News	News	2.8	4.5	7.3	7.3
9 Stars In Their Eyes	Sat 06	19.18	ITV	Granada	Entertainment	2.9	4.5	7.4	7.4
10 Confessions	Sat 06	19.10	BBC1	Hot Trick Prods	Entertainment	1.2	4.1	5.4	5.4

(BBC) (Broadcasters' Audience Research Board) (David Graham & Associates) 01623 329292  
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### Prime viewing

THE BBC's coverage of VE-Day during the weekend of May 6 and 7 appears, understandably, to have been more popular with viewers old enough to remember 1945 than with the younger generation (Alexander Fraser writes). Thanks to a high proportion of viewers aged 55 and over, BBC1's coverage of the Royal British Legion VE-Day Celebration Concert in Hyde Park, London (which included Vera Lynn and Harry Secombe) attracted 8.6 million viewers. But not even the VE-Day celebrations could eclipse Prime Suspect, the ITV police thriller starring Helen Mirren, which attracted 13.2 million.





# OPERA

Glyndebourne strikes gold with its revival of *Ermione*, a long-neglected Rossini tragedy



# POP

"A goal set and a goal met": Stevie Wonder is in top form for a good cause at the Albert Hall

# THE TIMES ARTS



# PROFILE

Where would the arts in Yorkshire and Humberside be without the driving force of Sir Ernest Hall?



# POETRY

Philip Howard offers three laurel wreaths of approval to Penguin for reviving its modern poets series

## Madness made magnificent

OPERA: Glyndebourne pulls out all the stops to do a rarely performed Rossini tragedy proud, says Rodney Milnes

Monday will surely go down in Glyndebourne's history as one of the Great Nights — the first time it has mounted one of Rossini's serious operas (and pray not the last), and done so with astounding success. As *Ermione* galloped with headlong momentum to its hair-raising finishing line, you felt you had been through an emotional car-wash, buffeted from all sides by the increasingly frenzied behaviour of what must be one of the most dysfunctional cast-lists in the operatic canon.

There are several mysteries about this amazing work. After a single performance in Naples in 1819, Rossini withdrew the score. It was not performed again until 1977, and not staged until ten years later in Pesaro. Why? In a fascinating programme note Patric Schmid suggests that the opera Rossini was supposed to write for London in 1824, the score of which was mysteriously lodged in a city bank-vault for six years, may have been *Ermione* in disguise: bits of it had already turned up in other operas, and the composer was a notorious cannibaliser. That would explain why, unlike the Neapolitan successes *Mosè* and *Maometto II*, Rossini did not adapt it for the Paris stage. "It will not see the light of day until after my death," he said, and he was right. And why did it fall in 1819? Presumably because it was "naïve modern music", in which case it is decidedly witty of Glyndebourne to be playing it cheek by jowl with Britten's *The Second Mrs Kong*. Even in Naples, one of the most sophisticated operatic centres of the day, *Ermione* must have sounded unexpected, experimental, dangerously radical.

The source is Racine's *Andromache*. The opera is short — just two hours — and highly concentrated. Nothing happens quite as it should. The chorus twice interrupts the overture; characters do not necessarily present themselves with cavalcades; cavalcades turn into free arias; what you think is going to be a formal solo turns into a fraught dialogue; scenes don't end with a bang, but with a recitative; an expected cabaletta is held back until you imagine it isn't going to come, and then hits you between the eyes when it does. You are forever on the edge of your seat wondering what on earth Rossini is going to do next.

And the music tells you about the characters and their feelings with — even for Rossini — uncommon power. In the aftermath of the Trojan War Pyrrhus loves his captive Andromache, widow of Hector, and blackmails her into marriage by

threatening to hand her son over to the murderous visiting Greeks, led by Orestes. Hermione, Pyrrhus's fiancée, is not pleased and orders the besotted Orestes to murder him, but has second thoughts (too late).

So there are three people in the grip of erotic obsession, their irrational behaviour underpinned with jagged, neurotic accompaniment figures, eccentric vocal intervals, murky instrumentation — you know from the music accompanying Orestes's entrance that he is pretty wonky before he has opened his mouth. Squirling piccolos that add to the hilarity of Rossini's comic finales here suggest the madness gripping the dramatic personae.

The triumph of Graham Vick's production is that he has found a way of presenting this dangerously melodramatic material to a modern audience without a hint of embarrassment. Richard Hudson's set is a tilted theatre auditorium, and his hand-some costumes are vaguely Victorian. Within this context the cast can gesture

extravagantly, swoop around the stage swishing their trains and generally chew the scenery while looking perfectly at home. It is daring but it works and, as lit by Wolfgang Göbbel, it looks sumptuous.

But such expert stagecraft would be to no avail if the opera were not superbly sung. Anna Caterina Antonacci is on marvellous form in the title role, her voice seamless from smoky low notes to gleaming top, and the crazy coloratura holds no terrors for her. Diana Montague, looking wonderful in her ice-blue gown in contrast to the dangerous reds and purples of the others, sings with poised beauty as one of the few sane people on stage.

Bruce Ford, one of today's leading Rossini tenors, has found new honey in his tone to match his amazing ease above the stage, and his dramatic presentation of the deranged Orestes is distinctly frightening. Maybe the Mexican tenor Jorge Lopez-Yanez concentrates on fullness of sound at the expense of fluidity, and maybe Vick presents Pyrrhus as too much the calculating tyrant, too little the obsessed lover, but if Lopez-Yanez relaxes into the run, all will be well.

The sound of the London Philharmonic in full cry comes as a shock in music last played here by the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Period instruments emphasise the neurotic, quicksilver qualities of the score, but it is impossible not to be swept away by the fervour and energy of Andrew Davis's conducting.

*Ermione* will be broadcast on BBC Radio 3 on May 30, and on Channel 4 on June 3



Anna Caterina Antonacci, "her voice seamless from smoky low notes to gleaming top", in the title role and Bruce Ford, "one of today's leading Rossini tenors", as the mad Orestes in Glyndebourne's *Ermione*

## Hall in a day's work and play

Michael Church tries to keep up with industrialist, property developer and concert pianist Sir Ernest Hall

Some say life begins at 40. A few put a brave face on it, and make it 50. But when a 65-year-old claims he is just entering his prime, one tends to wonder. What are we to make of Sir Ernest Hall? Consider his schedule this week: he spent Monday in Halifax at Dean Clough Mill, the gigantic "practical utopia" of which he is the founder-owner and chairman. The day's business included the induction of a new director for his American-style children's museum of science and technology, and a meeting with Northern Ballet Theatre (chairman E. Hall).

Yesterday and today he is in St Petersburg for the official unveiling of a facsimile edition of Pushkin's notebooks. Thursday: to Stockholm, to a rehearsal with the pianist Mari Kodama, plus orchestra. Friday: more rehearsals, then a meeting at Yorkshire and Humberside Arts (chairman E. Hall), then a meeting with the Creative Jazz Orchestra (he plans to make Dean Clough a centre for jazz).

Saturday morning at Dean Clough, keeping tabs on an empire in which 200 companies employ 3,000 people. Saturday evening: Mozart's Concerto for Two Pianos, performed in Stockholm by Kodama and E. Hall. "I have the feeling," he says, "that the next 15 years are going to be the most successful and creative of my life."

Any doubts one may have had about his musical excellence will have been dispelled by his recent recording of Bartók's First and Second Piano Concertos. His business acumen, which took him to the top of the weaving trade in the 1960s and made him a leader in the property-development game in the 1970s, has been proved beyond question. So what makes him run?

He was born in the back streets of Bolton. "I was reputed to be able to play any tune on the mouth-organ by the age of two," he says. When he was eight, and out visiting with his parents, he found a piano and taught himself to play *The Bluebell of Scotland*. His parents lashed out 30 shillings for a piano with a cracked sounding board. He began to compose, had a piece performed on the wireless, and finally won a place at the

Royal Manchester College of Music. He graduated with a major prize for composition, but after National Service concluded he would have to earn his living in commerce. He learnt to weave, book-keep and type. "But I never stopped regarding myself as a pianist."

Once he'd got Dean Clough afloat, he turned back to music and began to play concertos with local orchestras. The turning point came when he was invited to perform with the Bulgarian violinist Vanya Milanova for a Compass Theatre production of *Amadeus*. "I suddenly realised my playing had to improve dramatically," he says. Henceforth, after the nine-hour office day, he did four more hours on the Steinway at home.

At 19, he was one of four pianists chosen by Manchester to mark the anniversary of Chopin's death with a concert at which he played the Op 10 Studies. His major project now is a recording of Chopin's entire oeuvre, starting in October with the Scherzos.

He is composing, and also writing a manual on piano technique. "I don't know of a good one," he says. "I had to learn things the hard way. I'd like to pass on the wisdom I've acquired."

Quoting his favourite American millionaire — "Stay ignorant! Once you get smart, you know it can't be done" — Hall holds forth on the power of innocence, and the romance of creation, whether in music or bricks and mortar. So what makes him run? Talent, astuteness and will.



Hall: "The next 15 years will be my most creative"

## Live and kicking aid

POP: An evening of songs in the key of a legend's life, and all in a good cause



Stevie Wonder wraps up more than 30 years of magic

Stevie Wonder  
Albert Hall

ABSENT too long from a British concert stage and, consequently, feverishly anticipated by the local faithful, Stevie Wonder upped the stakes still higher in his first aside to Monday night's audience. This, the first of two performances benefiting the National Institute for the Blind, marked the realisation of a long-held ambition and of several years of planning — "a goal set and a goal met".

As such, Wonder continued, it brought him a measure of satisfaction comparable only with that occasion when the Reagan administration acceded to his campaign to have Martin Luther King's birthday recognised as an American national holiday. Cue tumultuous applause and proudly beating hearts — but also a sense of unease.

After all, the past 15 years have seen the one-time Boy Wonder judged harshly. A chart star at 12 (*Fingertips* — Pt 2), a songwriting great by 20 (*I Was Made to Love Her*, *My Cherie Amour*) and inarguably the most innovative black pop musician of his generation by 26 (that quartet of classic albums in the 1970s, *Talking Book*, *Innervisions*, *Taught by the Fire*, *Hotter than July*) he was also widely perceived as being washed up and commercially wasted at 30. Not so: the 1980s provided

him with two of his biggest sellers, the Paul McCartney duet *Ebony and Ivory* and that karaoke classic, *I Just Called to Say I Love You*. But for fans of a man once at the cutting edge of pop-soul, there was little pleasure to be taken in either.

So how would the dreadlocked man of 45 in the white two-piece approach an event of such obvious personal importance? This year's *Conversation Peace*, the first full studio album in eight years, gave grounds for cautious optimism. By no means a classic, it at least showed something of the mastery of pop composition and social comment that combined so memorably in the best of his mid-period work. And the fact that a clearly relaxed and at times almost childishly humorous Wonder planned his set list along the lines of a partial Greatest Hits ensured

the overwhelming success of what must rank as one of the most carnival-like evenings in recent Albert Hall memory. Backed variously by full orchestra, his personal band or merely his own grand piano and electronic keyboard, the singer got underway by juxtaposing new material (*Sensuous Whisper* and the particularly crowd-pleasing *Cold Chill*) with some of the least adorned but most lovely of his older songs (a stunning trio of *You and I*, *Ribbon in the Sky* and *If It's Magic*). The latter third of a two-hour show was a romp home to glory: *Signed, Sealed, Delivered, I'm Yours*, *Sir Duke*, *You are the Sunshine of My Life*, *Superstition*...

Even the closing performance of *I Just Called*... supported by four visually impaired children, seemed acceptable after a build-up like that. And the only wonder remaining at the end of a score or more of his better songs remained unplayed.

ALAN JACKSON

Philip Howard hails the imminent reissue of Penguin's cheap anthologies of modern poetry

Everybody agrees that poetry is the queen of the literary genres. Well, almost everybody. I once had an editor who declared, "I hate poetry". And he sounded as though he meant it.

The precision of poetry does not suit the slapdashery of newspaper headlines, which enforce a daily cut-off point when you have to print something less than perfect rather than a blank space. You commission the poet laureate for a poem to celebrate royal nuptials, and you end up with a distasteful throwaway about dead birds. The archives of *The Times* are thick with letters from Rudyard Kipling insisting on petty peddling changes in punctuation in his poems that no columnist other than a very grand old poet would (or should) be allowed to dictate.

Literary piety insists that poetry is queen. As far as we can tell, it was the earliest literary form. Modern children first learn literature through verse, as likely to be advertising jingles as nursery rhymes these days. But nobody publishes much poetry.

In one way this is a golden age for poetry. You only need to go to any literary festival or workshop to see that more people of all sorts, sexes, classes and levels are writing the stuff. The most common question from the floor once the formal talking has ceased, whatever the topic, is: "Would you like to read (publish) my poetry (novel)?"

The Salamander Oasis Trust has lodged in the Imperial War Museum more than 14,000 poems written on active service by all ranks and scores during the Second World War, the first war for the common poet(ess). An astonishing number of aspirant poets send their unsolicited work to news-

## Happy return for an endangered species

papers for comment and in the faintest hope of publication.

But we are less united about reading than writing the hard stuff of literature. We prefer to write (and if possible publish) our own poetry rather than buy or read other people's. There is no generally agreed Parnassus of great poets, as there was a generation ago with Auden and Eliot. Instead there are as many hilllocks as in East Anglia, each with competing groups of poets singing to small audiences, from performance poetry to rap and concrete to rhyme. Publishers and editors stick to bottom-line 94: "There's no money in poetry".

With honourable exceptions such as Faber, OUP and Bloodaxe, they prefer frequent anthologies of old poetry with increasingly esoteric criteria for selection, such as *The Laureate Book of Humorous*

*Animal Erotic Verse*. But it is difficult for new poets to find a publisher. The days when Byron could wake up and find that *Childe Harold* had made him famous overnight, or when Tennyson's *Idylls of the*

All those poets out there can now read how it is done

King were top of every wedding-list, or *Four Quartets* became a best-seller seem long gone.

So three wreaths of laurel for Penguin, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary by reviving its modern poets series. This series first ran a

generation ago, with three writing poets to a slim vol at prices for the slimmest pocket. The 81 poets featured then are witnesses to the taste and ears of their editors 30 years ago. They include most of the names that have since become famous, from Elizabeth Jennings to Stevie Smith and Lawrence Durrell to Allen Ginsberg. Indeed, the Adrian Henri, Roger McGough and Brian Patten volume has not been out of print since its first publication.

The first three volumes, published tomorrow, contain selections from James Fenton, Blake Morrison and Kit Wright; Carol Ann Duffy, Vicki Feaver and Eavan Boland; and Glyn Maxwell, Mick Imlah and Peter Reading. In each volume the poets have made their own choice of their poems, and some have chosen to end their selections

with recent work not yet published.

I remember Fenton saying that, in order to get away from politics and newspapers, he was off to the Philippines as a corner of the world where odd things happened. He arrived just in time to report, with a poet's eye for the trivial that illuminates the important, the revolution that brought down the Marcoses. He also brought back for Penguin *Cat-Throat Christ* and *The Milk-Fish Gatherers*, as well as fine poetry from even wilder parts of the Far East and the hungry heart at home.

Penguin publishes stuff these days, from soggy Agassas to knicker-rippers, that might have shocked its founding fathers. Some of its prices disgrace the original notion of a library for the pocket of Everyman. But its modern poets, at £5 for three, are a fitting tribute to the populist Penguin principle. All those solipsistic would-be poets out there can now read how it is done. Even those who claim to hate poetry might take a look at the work of the most important writers of any generation.

leas and melisande DEBUSSY

25, 27 May  
Leeds Grand Theatre 0113 245 9351/244 0971

30 May, 3 June  
Nottingham Theatre Royal 0115 948 2626

6, 10 June  
Manchester Palace Theatre 0161 242 2503  
(Subject to a booking fee per ticket)  
New production supported (1994) by The Friends of Opera North



## TONIGHT 1

**Jitterbugging with Yum-Yum:** just a small nod at G&S as *Hot Mikado* arrives for a West End run

## TONIGHT 2

**Barely trad and hardly Strad:** teenage violinist Vanessa Mae teams up with Kiki Dee on tour in Glasgow

## THE TIMES ARTS

## VISUAL ART

Not the Chelsea Flower Show, but close: the V&A goes all botanical with its exhibition. *Picturing Plants*

## MUSIC

With a Takemitsu work in tow, Japan's brilliant new Shinsei Orchestra shows its class in Brighton

## Saying it with flowers

**VISUAL ART: John Russell Taylor**  
saunters through a centuries-old garden of floral art on show at the Victoria & Albert Museum

There is something about the disciplines of botanical illustration that leaves the artist curiously naked. The convention almost universally observed in the Victoria & Albert's big summer show, *Picturing Plants*, is that the plant concerned is all there is. Occasionally a butterfly may be added to the composition, but only two or three of the pictures shown venture into creating a fully fledged landscape to set the plant in its normal habitat.

Some of the most telling images are from the earliest herbals

This means that for the most part the artist is out on his (occasionally her) own, forced somehow to reconcile the claims of scientific accuracy with those of art for its own sake. But then, like the prospect of immediate death, such challenges and constraints seem to concentrate the mind remarkably. From the early 16th century to within living memory, artist after artist manages to produce stunningly beautiful images while at the same time doing all that needs to be done in terms of scientific record — at least, according to Gill Saunders, author of the finely illustrated "analytical history" that accompanies the show.

The scientific side proves unexpectedly absorbing even for visitors whose whole initial interest is in the attractions of the images as images. One thing that soon becomes clear is that the special discipline of botanical illustration has something in common with that other special discipline for draughtsmen, architectural illustration. Both of them were perfectly understandable as long as there was no ready alternative, in the shape of colour photography, let alone virtual reality engendered in a computer. But now, presu-

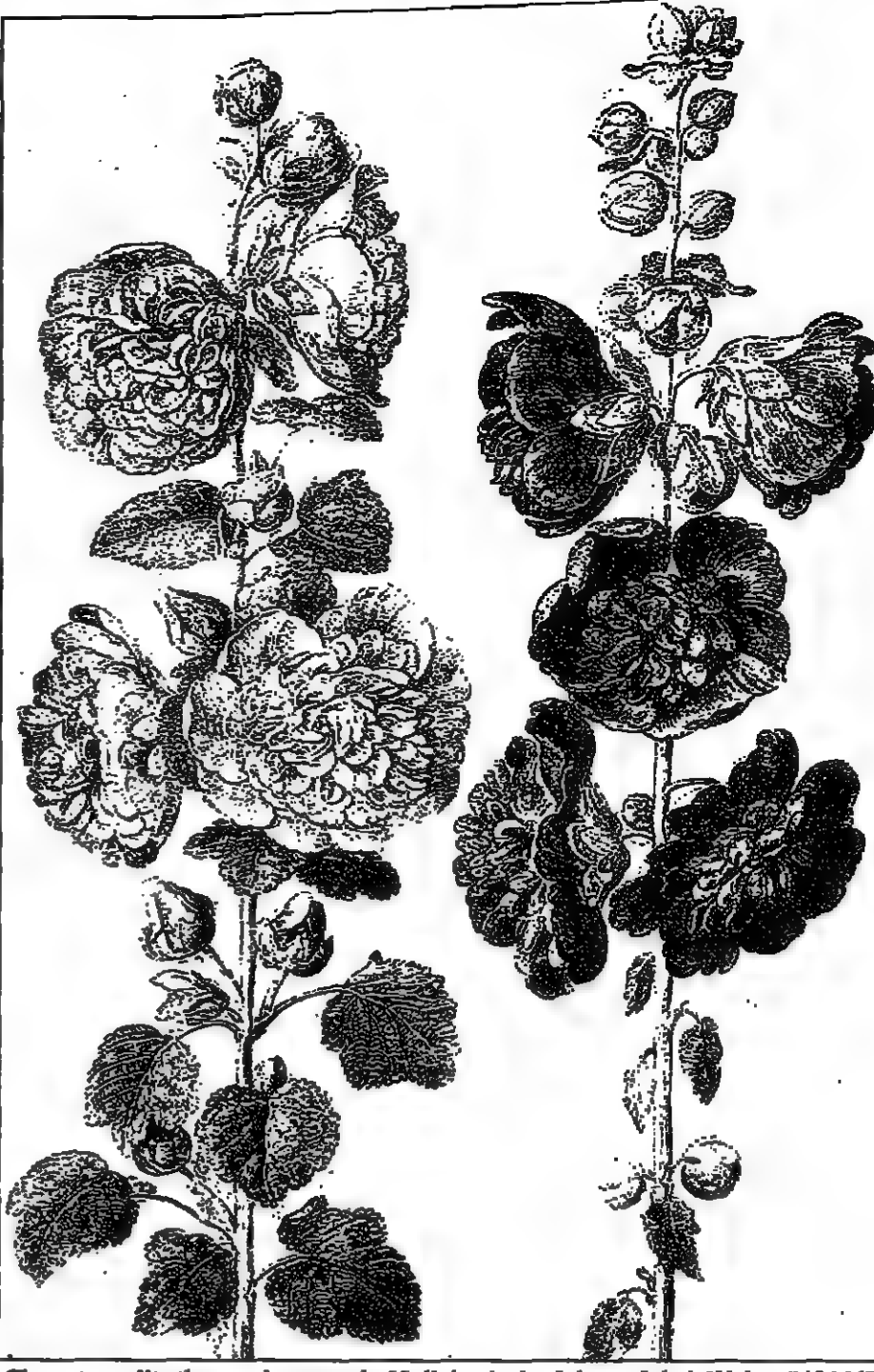
ably, both forms of illustration have been replaced and become unnecessary. Not quite, it transpires. Just as the architectural draughtsman can give a more vivid, because it is more imaginatively appealing, idea of a building's quality than any photograph or computer mock-up, so the botanical illustrator can arrange, select, highlight in such a way that the result is more helpful — even scientifically — than any photograph.

This seems to be recognised in the show by the choice even of pre-war seed packets, which all have on them drawings or paintings, not merely photographs of plants. Any gardener will realise that seed packet illustrations can be far more outrageous, but the drawings almost always give a clearer indication of what the plant ideally looks like.

Of course botanical illustration has its own stars, and several of them are well represented here, with originals and books (often hand-coloured) selected entries from the V&A's archives. There are splendid examples of the work of Redoute, seen here not just as a painter of roses, and Ehret, who proves to be as expressive recording the humblest plants of the hedgerow as the most elaborate products of the horticulturalist's art.

Despite the many-coloured splendours of the later artists, some of the most telling and memorable images are drawn from the earliest herbals, such as those of Hans Weiditz (1530), or Pier Andrea Mattioli (1598), where the expressivity of black line is the most important factor.

Among the Victorians there are also several examples of "nature prints", in which the



Closer to reality than a photograph: *Hollyhocks*, by Johann Jakob Walter (1604-1677)

plant itself was allowed to leave its own form on photographically sensitised paper, and a large section given over to the recording of new plant discoveries, sometimes from the hand of intrepid plant-hunters themselves.

The story peters out in the first half of the 20th century. This should not give the impression that the art is therefore dead. Any habitué of the gallery at Kew Gardens will know that is not true. But it sometimes seems there is a certain lack of confidence, perhaps concerning the continuing usefulness of botanical illustration in an age of computers. It may be up to artists such as Elizabeth Blackadder

who, when they feel like it, paint flowers with perfect precision and infectious delight, to renew the specialists' faith in what they are doing.

*Picturing Plants* is at the Victoria & Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, SW7 0RT (0171-333 9441) until September 24. Gill Saunders's book is published by Zwemmer (£12.95).

## CONCERT: A brilliant Japanese band makes its British debut

## Modesty to shout about

Japan Shinsei SO/Numajiri Dome, Brighton

pulled a heavy pentatonic, very ethnic and very loud encore out of the bag, there was uproar.

This Tokyo-based orchestra sees its mission as three-fold: to present western classical repertoire; to introduce its conservative home audiences to the music of their Asian neighbours (this apparently includes Siberia and Austral-

asia); and to support the work of contemporary Japanese composers. Akira Miyoshi's eight-minute orchestral haiku, *Dispersion de l'été*, is a potent

response to war in general, and to one poet's experience in particular. Soh Sakon watched his mother die in an air raid in May 1945. He wrote of the "illusory reality" of his "irradiated sepulchre", an awkward translation of the French that inspired Miyoshi to a graphic orchestral fire-

ball.

The first real glimpse of one

HILARY FINCH

## LONDON

**HOT MIKADO.** Opening night for a jazz and jitterbug version of the Gilbert and Sullivan operetta, with Nerve-Pod a five-piece band with the local big band and Yum-Yum a duo with singer "Smash" he musical director from Washington DC, with Lawrence Hamilton as the Mikado and Raza Latham as Ko-Ko. Queen's, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5044). Tonight, 7pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm. Males, Thurs, Sat and Sun, 3pm.

**JEFF BARKS LOVES HIS SISTER.** Ann Bryson (the dark-haired lovely in the Philadelphia Cheesecake commercials) opens a one-woman comedy about the perils of sibling rivalry and a revenge set to climax on a sister's wedding day. Audrey Cooke directs. Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW8 (0171-722 5301). Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm. Males, Sat, Sun, 10pm.

**PLEASANT AND ELATION.** The Philadelphia Orchestra has a lively pairing tonight of conductor Leonard Slatkin and the percussionists Evelyn Glennie. Tippett's *Fantasia Concertante* on a Theme of Correll opens the performance, followed by Mahler's 5th, van Eyck's *Concerto for Violin and Piano* and a Symphony No 1. Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-926 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm.

**DEALER'S CHOICE.** Peter Marber's fascinating poker drama, funny one-liners abound, along with parodies of the most of gambling. Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-536 9887). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm. Males, Wed, 10pm and Sat, 8pm.

**THE DUCHESSES OF MALI.** Julie Stevenson and Simon Russell Beale in Webster's tragedy of incest, murder and the breakdown of the royal house. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1745). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Males, Wed, Sat, 8pm.

**FIVE GUYS NAMED NICE.** The first in a series of plays by Caryl Churchill's celebrated musical has bounced back into the West End. Albany, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens tomorrow, 7pm.

**HARVEY.** Laid back performance by Gordon Kane in a new comedy about a man who is very much in love with his rabbit. With Rufus Munnich. Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm. Males, Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm.

**THE KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE.** Maura Maguire plays the newly 2000 heroine in Frank McGuire's excellent comedy with a little. Geneva Evans and Josephine Teyson play her teachers. Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.30pm. Thurs, 5pm, Sat, 5.30pm.

**THE BILLYEYER.** Sean O'Casey's farce and lampooning anti-war drama, not seen in London since 1989. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-437 4343).

**ROB ROY.** Laid back but busy epic, with Liam Neeson as the hero, a high-tech and Tim Roth heading the bad guys. Michael Catron-Jones directs, with Jessica Lange, John Hurt and Brian Cox. Odéon, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Males, Thurs, Sat, 8pm.

**STREET FIGHTER.** (12). Mardian action thriller, from the popular video game, with Jean-Claude Van Damme and the late Paul Walker. Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Males, Thurs, Sat, 8pm.

**BOYS ON THE BEACH.** (15). Unapologetic women's picture with Whoopi Goldberg, Mary-Louise Parker, Drew Barrymore. Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Males, Thurs, Sat, 8pm.

## NEW RELEASES

**DOON JUAN DEMARCO.** (15). Refreshing and quietly romantic, based on a novel by John Galsworthy, written and directed by Jeremy Leven. Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323). Males, Fri-Sat, 8pm. Males, Sun, 2pm.

**THE BILLYEYER.** (15). Sean O'Casey's farce and lampooning anti-war drama, not seen in London since 1989. Lyric Theatre, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-437 4343).

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MUSIC

With a Takemitsu work in tow, Japan's brilliant new Shinsei Orchestra show class in Brighton

Flowers



LOTTERY

Money goes to a music project for unemployed youths in today's round of Arts Council grants

THEATRE 1

Was Furtwängler right to entertain Hitler? Ronald Harwood's fine new play poses the question

THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE 2

Jacques Brel lives again, though fitfully, in a new stage tribute at the King's Head, Islington

TOMORROW

Write a great film script, enter *The Times's* competition, and win a trip to Hollywood

# Winning numbers all round

Lord Gowrie, Arts Council chairman, explains the reasoning behind the lottery awards announced this morning

Today the Arts Council of England makes its second announcement of grants from the National Lottery funds. We have awarded £15 million to 49 different projects, large and small, all over the country. With sales exceeding expectations the lottery is likely to raise about £250 million for the arts in its first year. Of this sum, we have granted only £17 million so far. Prudence is a dull virtue, especially in an invigorating arena like the arts, until you think of the alternative. We are funding projects of proven need and high quality regardless of size, with ability to sustain themselves in the longer term. They should also have that magic ingredient known as inspiration. We do not "lose" the money we do not spend. We are determined not to unnerve herds of white elephants whose support will prove impossible for those who come after us.

No group of people is more aware than the Arts Council of the tension that exists between the need for capital investment and the crisis of current funding. The organisations we fund have good reason to be worried. Crisis management is something organisations rise to. As a daily diet, it saps vitality and creativity. Production costs are high and the recession, which still goes on where discretionary spending is concerned, has hit audiences,

sponsorship and morale. Considering the squeeze on its resources, local government has behaved valiantly. Yet another reorganisation, however, does not bode well for this essential source of money. England in particular suffered an inequitable and unnecessary cut (the sums involved are too small to have the slightest macro-economic significance).

The Secretary of State fought hard in the last spending round, and we are genuinely grateful for the partial restitution he achieved. But we still need £7 or £8 million on our baseline to go back, with little possibility of development, to where we were two years ago.

No wonder then, given the disparity between a desperate need for £8 million annually, and the monthly appearance in our coffers of £20 million, that the dedicated and underpaid men and women who run arts organisations are wondering whether the lottery really can increase audiences, help artists and promote artistic work of quality. I say to them, "Hang on in there". It is precisely because of each successive squeeze by central and local government that so many arts buildings are unending, in disrepair, at risk from health and safety legislation (the much envied English National Opera and Royal Opera houses, to take two huge organisations in the capital alone,



Among the lottery beneficiaries announced today will be Raw Music, a music and video project for young unemployed people in the King's Cross area of London

are on the verge of trading illegally) and threatened with closure. An age of ever more sophisticated electronic packages of home entertainment demands exciting and affordable venues, which are accessible to all if the living arts are to go on making their huge contribution to the revenues and prestige of this country.

Last month, for example, we rescued a brilliant children's theatre, the Unicorn Theatre in London, from closure. The creation

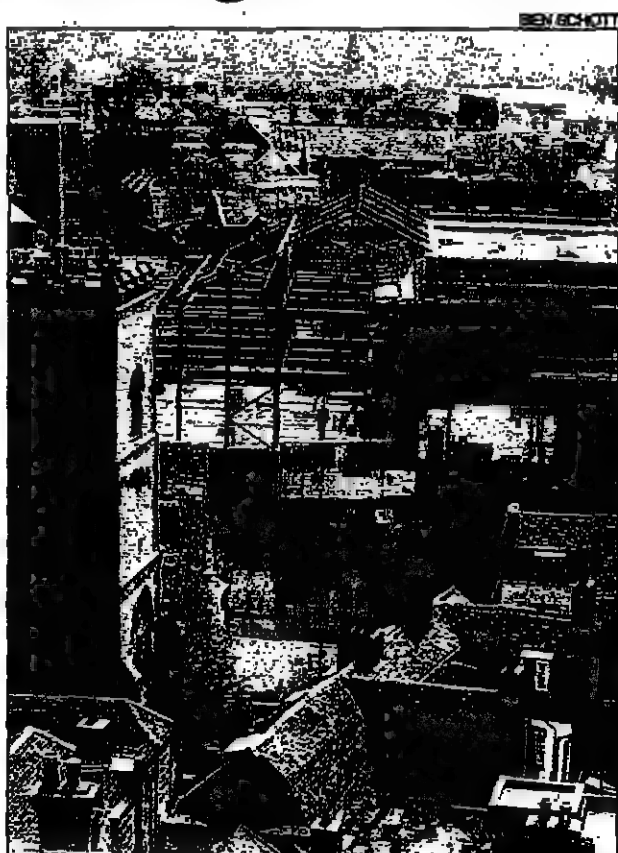
of new audiences is vital. Today we have given grants to another children's theatre, the Quicksilver, to the Nettlefold Festival Trust which will involve over 1,000 children in music on Clapham Common; to Raw Music, a music and video project for young unemployed people; and to the Royal School for the Deaf in Derby for the creation of a signed video library. A large award goes to Scarborough Theatre Trust, home of the dramatic and organisational genius of Alan

Ayckbourn. Improvements to the South Westmead Stage and Screen Society and the Cambridge Arts Theatre will reduce running costs and increase earned income. Many of these awards will have a direct impact on the work available to artists. The lottery is a commissioning agent, a patron in the old sense, and we intend to see this aspect of our work grow. As a result of the lottery, Norwich Playhouse has commissioned a new play and the Hayling Island Amateur Dra-

## Historic stage rescue

A £6.6 million lottery grant will save Cambridge's Arts Theatre, reports Daniel Rosenthal

With the announcement this morning of a £6.6 million National Lottery grant to Cambridge's Arts Theatre Trust — the largest single award in the country — the future has been secured of a celebrated venue that has been closed since April 1993 and is currently a mass of girders, concrete and hard hats. The money has ended two years of anxiety for the theatre's trustees and local players, who have been campaigning to raise £3 million towards an £8 million scheme that will transform the rundown building of fond memory into one of Britain's best-appointed regional theatres.



Currently a mass of girders, the Arts Theatre has been nursery to some of the country's finest theatrical talents

Demolition work is complete. Contractors will now begin the reconstruction, and the curtain should rise again for the 1996-97 season. Until today, however, the question on the lips of Arts Theatre regulars deprived of a year-round programme which took in Shakespeare, Molière and Wedekind, was not "when will it reopen?" but "will it ever reopen?". By 1990 it became clear that, having always relied on the Endowment Fund established by its founder John Maynard Keynes, rather than public subsidy, the 59-year-old theatre was heading for insolvency. It was a case of redevel or die.

The trustees had hoped to reopen last autumn. But despite support from patrons Sir John Gielgud and Stephen Hawking, they could not overcome a recession-induced squeeze on donations. Autumn 1994 passed with the appeal target a long way off and little prospect of raising the remaining millions from anywhere except the lottery.

The 1993 closure made 60 theatre staff redundant. Touring companies had to strike Cambridge from their itineraries and, after performing at the Arts for generations, Footlights and the Marlowe Society, Cambridge University's most famous drama groups, have been forced to mount their annual productions in reduced circumstances at the

Amateur Dramatic Club or Cambridge Festival theatres. Student actors and directors have thus lost the chance to develop their skills on a stage which has served as a launching pad for dozens of famous thespian knights and dames.

Because an organisation's importance within its community is one of the lottery's bidding criteria, the theatre's position at the heart of Cambridge culture was crucial. Before closure, its box office returns were 13 per cent above the national average for mid-size theatres and that popularity was reflected in the determination of local residents to ensure the return of mainstream drama.

Lindsay Hall, the theatre's campaign co-ordinator, hails the grant as a triumph for the organisers of coffee mornings, raffles and recitals which helped the appeal reach £2.4 million. "They worked astonishingly hard," she says. "Our bid was dependent on raising £3 million in partnership funding, so we wouldn't have got the lottery money without their support. Some worried their donations were going down a black hole. Now there is tremendous relief."

The auditorium, described by Sir Ian McKellen as "one of the most wonderfully intimate

## THEATRE: Key figures in 20th-century music resurrected on stage in Chichester and Islington

### In tune with Hitler?

WHEN Hitler came to power, Otto Klemperer and Bruno Walter were among the musicians who left Germany. Wilhelm Furtwängler stayed. One of the greatest conductors of his day, some say the greatest, he continued to work in Nazi Germany and on tours abroad, where it was possible to see him as a cultural emissary of Nazism, whether or not he wished so to be seen.

When the war ended the question of what precisely his wishes had been brought him before the denazification courts. Though never a member of the Party, was he a secret sympathiser?

The question being asked in Ronald Harwood's engrossing play is twofold. First, if Furtwängler is innocent, why did he stay? And since he stayed, is he not guilty? Second, what should be the response of an eminent man, in this case an artist of world stature, when his country is taken over by tyrants?

The action takes place in the Berlin office of the American major (Michael Pennington) investigating the conductor's case and determined to find him guilty. Some unconvincing rubble forms the background to Eileen Doss's set, and two desks and a number of chairs occupy the main area. The major sits at one desk; at the other sits his German secretary and Amer-

ican assistant. Furtwängler for the most part sits in the middle.

His portrayal by Daniel Massey is a performance of magisterial conviction. He doesn't exactly look like the man, though white hair flows out from what I take to be a false bald pate, domed and pink and shining. But the face is scored with the lines of severe intelligence; the tight-lipped mouth and fierce stare unquestionably belong to a man who intently thinks and intensely feels.

Harwood has given him speeches in which to declare his conviction of the power and importance of music, and Massey delivers these in a lucid, precise and passionate voice. The voice itself is musical, charged with energy, capable of flamboyance, the instrument of dignity and daring.

None of this cuts any ice with Pennington's Major Arnold, chosen for the job because of his musical ignorance and mockingly referring to Furtwängler as a band-leader. Harwood is not on Arnold's side.

The widow of a Jewish pianist (Suzanne Bertish) warns Arnold that he risks

**Taking Sides**  
Minerva, Chichester

becoming as intolerant as the enemy, and Harwood evidently wishes us to watch out for this. Arnold has seen Belsen, but even this does not provide a persuasive motive for his antagonism. Because of this

lack of a credible power base for Arnold, the quality of argument diminishes in the second half. In other respects Harwood has written what used to be called a well-made play, where every character introduces an aspect of the central issue.

The characters in a well-made play can be too carefully contrived, and so they are

here. Yet nothing can take away from the fascination of Harwood's hero and the blazing quality of Massey's performance.

Harold Pinter's direction helps to create the sense of danger and the importance of asking what people can best do in such predicaments. But if the play transfers to London I hope it will be to a presentment stage so that important moments will not be invisible to half the audience.

JEREMY KINGSTON

### Jacques flash

JACQUES BREL alive? Well, not exactly. He is, at best, semi-animated in Islington. Of course, some songs by this Belgian-born *chansonnier* have been perpetuated worldwide. Equally, the original stage show, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*, kept the flame burning for the singer-songwriter, running off-Broadway when he abandoned Paris for his reclusive last years in Polynesia.

Nevertheless, the present staging is "live" but not vital. The foursome — two men, two women — who present Brel's songs cabaret-style (translations by Blau and Shuman), look a mile sized-up in their black tie and sheath ball-gowns.

Our singers execute Jazz Age moves but exude minimal razzmatazz. The dining-room intimacy of the King's Head spells trouble for stage nerves. The audience can see the faintest discomfort close-up.

Struan Leslie is more to blame: the choreography only comes into its own 23 songs

**Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris**  
King's Head, NI

(and counting) into the show. In Next, Brel's macabre march, the company shuffle staggeringly forward in a chain, heads slumped. Each falls to the back to begin again, like an endless column of soldiers reduced to the walking dead.

The singers, all vocally decent, do warm to their task. Stuart Fendred is the most winningly activated, spinning like a tumbler or ridiculously swaggering in Jackie. However, too often the dramatics is hammy. The group harmonise with dizzying acceleration in the fairground rondo, *Carrousel*, but must they flail their arms like ferris wheels?

KATE BASSETT

THE TIMES

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Database experience required. Age 25-35.  
Please telephone 0171 628 9529.

Elizabeth Hunt  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## CAPITAL CHOICE FOR CITY TEMPS

- Secretaries and Receptionists
  - Immediate bookings
  - Top City locations
  - Hourly pay rates of up to £10. Loyalty  
Bonus and paid Bank Holidays
  - Cross training onto the latest systems
- Please telephone Katrina, Ruth, Sarah,  
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## Personal Assistant to Chief Operating Officer

To £24,000 + Bens  
This prestigious firm of Stockbrokers seeks a PA with exceptional  
secretarial skills (shorthand/typing 100/80wpm) to provide a  
confidential administrative support to one of its senior directors.  
You'll need 5 years organisational experience at Board level, an  
ability to communicate at all levels & immaculate presentation.  
Age 28-40 years.

## Administrative Secretary

Package to £20,000 E1  
This top Merchant Bank seeks a good all-rounder to provide  
comprehensive secretarial & admin support to a busy  
compliance team. Fast & accurate typing together with  
shorthand of 80wpm & knowledge of the finance industry  
could help you to develop this role considerably. Age 25  
to 35 years.

Please call HEATHER or LORRAINE on 0171 606 0011  
12 Grosvenor Court, Bow Lane, EC4A

Office  
Angels

## CALLING ALL WEST END SECRETARIES

FINE ARTS  
£15,000 + benefits  
If your dream has always been to work in the Fine Arts, this could be  
the job for you. This world-wide, highly prestigious company is looking  
to recruit a shorthand secretary, educated to 'A' level standard, to  
support one of its charming directors. Minimum of 30 wpm shorthand,  
50 wpm typing and an extremely professional approach are essential.

## CALLING ALL CITY SECRETARIES

INVESTMENT  
£16,000 - £18,000 + banking benefits  
Involvement and variety are the key words to describe these team  
secretarial positions. Whether working for a team of fund managers or  
corporate finance executives within these leading investment houses,  
your initiative and first class secretarial and communication skills will  
be highly appreciated and financially rewarded. If you have a minimum  
of 30 wpm shorthand and 50 wpm typing, call us immediately.

PAN EUROPEAN  
RECRUITMENT

## CALLING ALL TEMPORARY SECRETARIES

If you are looking for challenge,  
involvement and have excellent  
secretarial skills, why narrow your  
job search to just permanent  
opportunities? Our temps enjoy the  
chance to work 52 weeks per year  
at competitive rates, paid holidays  
and assignments in a variety of  
companies which offer other temp  
permanent positions. If you have a  
minimum of 3 years experience,  
are aged 20-30, have shorthand (an  
advantage) and 50wpm typing -  
Call us now!

Please call us now on  
0171-734 8484

## College Leavers/2nd Jobbers?

### Permanent & temporary opportunities in Covent Garden.

The Food and Drink Federation (FDF) is the principal representative organisation for UK  
food and drink manufacturers. Based in modern centrally located offices the environment is  
lively, stimulating and friendly. We are looking for enthusiastic self-starters with a good  
educational background and ideally, six months experience (skills 60wpm typing and  
proficiency in WPS 1/Microsoft packages) to provide support to busy Executives.  
We have coordinating duties, arranging European travel, and organising events. We have  
permanent and temporary contracts available and offer salaries in the range of £13-15,000  
plus a good benefits package. Candidates with a food science  
background would find these opportunities of particular interest.



Please mail or fax your CV to The Personnel Dept.  
Food and Drink Federation,  
6 Catherine Street, London WC2B 5JJ, fax 240 6685.

## Knight Frank & Rutley

### Team Secretary - Residential Division

We are looking for a  
secretary for a team of four  
within the International  
Department.

Candidates should have:  
• at least 12 months' work  
experience  
• excellent secretarial skills  
(90wpm, audio/70wpm) as  
there will be a high typing  
content  
• a sense of humour.

A good telephone manner is  
essential and knowledge of a  
European language would  
be an advantage.

Please send your CV with a  
covering letter including a  
note of your current salary,  
to Susan Jackson,  
Personnel Department,  
Knight Frank and Rutley,  
20 Hanover Square,  
London W1R 0AH.

## Office Manager/ PA

£18-20,000

This small but exclusive City Investment Banking firm is looking for a  
PA with five years senior level experience. The ability to juggle  
various tasks at once from organising an extremely busy chairman and  
team to changing a light bulb are crucial. If you thrive under pressure,  
enjoy using your initiative and can work to tight deadlines whilst  
remaining calm and cheerful then this is the position for you. Aged  
between 26-35 with experience of Word for Windows, Powerpoint and  
a database (preferably Paradox). 60 wpm typing. Please call Bill on  
0171-377 9919

HOBSTONES  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## NO LUCK ON THE LOTTERY?

The only other way to have that sort of  
money is to join us!  
International Publishing company wants to  
give you the opportunity to earn the sort of  
money you have previously only dreamt of.  
For more information and an interview  
contact Peter McIntyre on 0181 365 2555.  
Monday to Friday 9am - 5pm

## PA IN T.V.

£19,000

Working as PA to the Director of Corporate  
Affairs you will need to have lots of initiative  
as he delegates endlessly. You will  
hopefully also have strong administrative  
ability as other responsibilities include  
personnel, facilities management, vehicle  
fleet, government & local affairs. A highly  
confidential role. Age 30+. Package  
includes BUPA, Pension & STL.

0171 439 7001

SECRETARIES PLUS  
The Specialist Recruitment

## THESE ARE SOME OF THE VACANCIES WE HAVE RECENTLY FILLED:

PA to Head of Trading, Investment Banking £10,000  
PA to Chief Executive, Publishing £10,000  
PA to Chairman, Investment Underwriting £14,000  
PA to Director, Public Relations £22,000  
PA to Head of Corporate Finance, Investment Banking £20,000

Team Secretary... Investment Banking... £15,000  
College Leaver... Current Affairs... £15,000  
CAN YOU AFFORD NOT TO BE REGISTERED WITH US?  
48 applications are positively welcomed. Contact us now at  
Angela Mortimer ph 0171-814 0800

Angela Mortimer

## PA with German

£18,000 + bens

A senior director and two trading floor  
associates within this top City bank need  
a first class secretary to liaise extensively  
with German speaking clients, prepare  
detailed presentations, co-ordinate  
extensive travel itineraries and organise  
complex client entertainment. A varied  
and pressurised role, Word for Windows  
and Excel essential, shorthand an  
advantage. Age mid to late 20's. Call  
Susannah Beines 0171-377 9919

HOBSTONES  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Graduate Secretary

£16,500 + Exc  
bonus

A U.S. firm of stockbrokers need an  
ambitious secretary with the ability and drive  
to take on a trading role. Your rate of progress  
is down to you. Whilst training you will be  
fully involved supporting one of the overseas  
desks. Duties will include own client list,  
research, arranging travel, and mailshots. You  
must be a graduate with secretarial  
qualifications including 50 wpm / audio/  
copy typing, a windows package and  
spreadsheet. Age 22-26. Please call Sarah  
Dale on 0171 377 9919

HOBSTONES  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Partner's PA

£20,000 Pkg

Are you proactive, flexible and in search of a  
new challenge? The busy and demanding  
Partner of this international blue chip company  
needs a PA that he can reliably delegate to, so  
your administrative and organisational skills will  
be fully utilised. In return you will be well  
rewarded with excellent benefits including paid  
o/s, bonus, gym etc. Min. 2 years senior level  
experience and a good level of education. Word  
for Windows, s/Sheet, graphics, 60wpm. If you  
have these skills combined with a good sense of  
humour call Kate for more information on 0171  
437 6032

HOBSTONES  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Media Secretary

£16,000 + bonus  
+ bens

For someone who takes pride in their work and  
wants to have a varied and involved role, this is  
the perfect position for you. Working 'for 3'  
consultants you will be holding the fort in their  
absence and managing your own work load as  
well as handling enquiries. There is enormous  
scope to develop the role and become involved in  
this friendly organisation. Age 28-40, 50 wpm  
typ. A bright, enthusiastic attitude with lots of  
initiative is essential. Please call Caroline Galan  
on 0171 437 6032

HOBSTONES  
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

## Director's PA

£18,000 + Bens

A superb opportunity for an all round  
administrator with fast efficient  
secretarial skills. You will be organising  
everything from credit card and car  
fleet administration to co-ordinating  
training courses. Working with the  
Finance Director and team you will  
fully utilise your bookkeeping and  
wp/database skills. Mid-late 20's, 'A'  
levels, French and Spanish useful. Call  
Lisanne Vae 0171-377 9919

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## MUSIC MOGUL SEEKS TOTALLY COMMITTED

SENIOR PA to £25k  
Exc. interpersonal and social skills as this pos.  
involves ideas of P.R. work, liaising with Artists  
etc. plus the flexibility to provide the PA  
secretarial (100 S/H) and organising support in  
the home of this famous but 1 on, any music. Exp. at  
Snr level of a high profile int'l organisation  
preferred + calm, mature attitude to cope with  
dynamic personality.

## EXECUTIVE P.A.

to £25,000 + Bens  
The dynamic Chairman of a world leading  
financial organisation requires top level graduate  
calibre, proactive PA. Full involvement includes  
organising client hospitality, extensive int'l travel  
liaison, diary mgmt, highly confidential projects,  
etc. 20+ years' board level exp. 60wpm WPM.

Tel: 0171 287 3664  
Fax: 0171 287 3664

Next  
Employment

## EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

For 3 months' temporary position. West-end based investment  
manager. Must be extremely organised, reliable, capable, willing to  
work extra hours and be generally available.  
Job Description: Client liaison, editing of marketing material, extensive  
travel itineraries and managing meetings/dinners etc. to reflect day to  
day priorities within this rapidly expanding area. This is a high profile position,  
therefore, immaculate presentation, good initiative and a flexible, calm approach  
is required. You will possess at least three years experience of working within the  
financial sector at senior level. This is a fabulous opportunity in an extremely  
stimulating, demanding environment, and the chance to work for a highly  
charismatic ebullient individual. F.F.D. Call Ben or Sarah

Send CV w/ref to:  
Ms Shantana, Alpha Asset Management Ltd.  
47 Albemarle St  
London W1X 3PE

## USE YOUR LANGUAGE SKILLS TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE

Customers in over 30 countries enjoy the benefits of insurance products  
tailor-made by St Paul International to meet their individual asset protection  
requirements. Our innovative and flexible approach to underwriting now more  
than £2bn in gross premiums last year alone - and we're aiming to do even better in  
1995. As part of our continued growth we are soon to open a number of offices on  
the European mainland, and as PA to our General Manager responsible for this  
expansion, your role will be varied.

As the Manager and his team will spend most of their time out of the office,  
you will be the first point of contact for our European partners, taking telephone  
calls and using your language skills to help with enquiries. Working at a senior level  
you will also provide comprehensive administrative and secretarial support to the  
team, joining us at an exciting time at the beginning of our international  
development.

Having language skills ideally in French and Spanish, you will also have at  
least 3 years' experience as a PA in a senior capacity. Shorthand and Ampico  
experience would be helpful but is not essential. We are a young and lively company  
taking pride in our team approach. A sense of humour is essential as is the ability  
to work under pressure and using your own initiative.

In return, you can expect a competitive salary and the benefits you would  
associate with a financial organisation. The position is based initially in London but  
will be relocating to Redhill in approximately six months.

To apply, please send your CV with salary details to Sarah Prior,  
St Paul International Insurance Company Limited, 61-63 London Road, Redhill,  
Surrey RH1 1NA.

## PA to International Team

c. £17,000



The St Paul  
Something out of the ordinary

## HIV/AIDS UNIT

## MEDICAL SECRETARY

Salary: £13,975 to  
£16,535 pa inclusive

## THE ROYAL FREE HAMPSTEAD NHS TRUST

We have a vacancy for a full-time Medical  
Secretary to work within the HIV/AIDS Unit  
and take charge of the organising and  
overseeing of the same day testing clinic.  
This involves consulting across two different  
services in a variety of disciplines. You will  
have at least two years' experience as a  
Medical Secretary plus 50 wpm typing,  
word processing, experience and good  
audio skills. You will be able to deal with  
the sensitive and confidential aspects of the  
work of this unit and will have good  
organisational and interpersonal skills.

For informal enquiries, please contact Dr  
Margaret Johnson on 0171 794 0500 ext  
3082.

Application packages are available from the  
Human Resources Department, 3rd Floor,  
Royal Free Hospital, Pond Street,  
Hampstead, London NW3 2QG. Tel: 0171  
830 2063. Please quote Ref: 18177.

Closing date: 7th June 1995

Committed to Equal Opportunities

## COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION UK BRANCH ADMINISTRATOR

Applications are invited for the post of Administrator of the  
UK Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association  
located in the Houses of Parliament,  
to start work on 3rd July.

In addition to general administrative duties the position  
entails acting as initial point of contact for MPs and other  
visitors from all over the Commonwealth. Other duties  
include correspondence, records, liaison with hotels,  
arranging menus, arranging visits to and from  
Commonwealth countries and supervising secretarial staff.  
Knowledge of bookkeeping would be an advantage.

Applicants should have the administrative ability and  
experience, personal qualities and social skills to meet these  
requirements. The successful candidate will probably be in  
the age bracket 30-35. Salary will be within the scale of civil  
service grade 8 (£21,789-£27,586), starting point to depend  
on qualifications and experience.

Contributory pension scheme and good holidays.  
Applications by 9th June 1995 to: The Secretary, CPA UK  
Branch, Westminster Hall, Houses of Parliament, London,  
SW1A 0AA (tel: 0171 219 5373).

This is an equal opportunities appointment.

## Judy Farquharson Ltd.

### Junior Secretary with Scope

For hectic office of luxury gifts company in West London. To start on  
reception and gradually take on more responsibility at assistant level.  
Ideal opportunity for confident, well-organised 1st or 2nd jobber with  
50+ typing on W4W, and a cheerful personality. Immediate start. £12K.

47 New Bond St, London W1Y 9HA  
Tel: 0171 493 8824 Fax: 0171 493 7161

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

### Marketing PA/Sec

19,500 + 'City' Benefits

We seek a mature and dynamic PA/Sec to assist the Boss of this blue chip City  
financial institution. Utilise your excellent organisational skills, arranging  
extensive travel itineraries and managing meetings/dinners etc. to reflect day to  
day priorities within this rapidly expanding area. This is a high profile position,  
therefore, immaculate presentation, good initiative and a flexible, calm approach  
is required. You will possess at least three years experience of working within the  
financial sector at senior level. This is a fabulous opportunity in an extremely  
stimulating, demanding environment, and the chance to work for a highly  
charismatic ebullient individual. F.F.D. Call Ben or Sarah

Tel: 0171 283 7800 Fax: 0171 283 7350

Crawford City Recruitment 135/141 Cannon Street EC4N 5AH

## career moves

### EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT FOR EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

RECORD CO

£25,000

An unusual opportunity for a dedicated, senior  
executive assistant who has had the experience  
of organising a known "personality" and who  
can easily supervise a team of four PAs. You  
will arrange everything for this VP and travel  
everywhere with them and liaise with mega  
names in the music world. An intelligent, quick  
thinking approach is essential along with total  
commitment and superb communication skills.  
Stylish, trendy presentation of utmost  
importance along with no less, good secret skills  
(some form of speedwriting). Ideally you'll be in  
your late 20's.

224 Great Portland Street, London W1W 9PP • Tel: 0171 494 0111 • Fax: 0171 494 0122



## HEAD RECEPTIONIST FOR INTERNATIONAL ADVERTISING AGENCY

£17,500

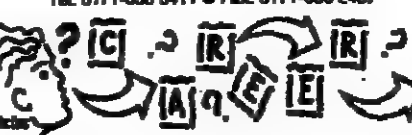
If you are a stylish, experienced s/w Receptionist  
who has worked in a fast moving, large company  
environment and enjoy supervising a team and  
running the s/wed equipment this well known  
Advertising Agency may be the place for you to  
spread your wings. With exceptionally beautiful  
new offices and brand new board the world will be  
your oyster. Early 30's.

## HEAD RECEPTIONIST PR CONSULTANCY

£18,000

Professional PR Consultancy need superb Head  
Receptionist to assist the Admin Manager. Along  
with immaculate presentation and approachable  
personality you need to have had supervisory exp as  
you organise role's for reception and dispatch  
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Tel: 0171 436 8411 • Fax: 0171 436 2457





**FAX:**  
**0171 481 9313**

Figure 1. Schematic representation of the experimental design. The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group and the experimental group. The control group received a standard diet and water, while the experimental group received a diet supplemented with 0.5% of the test substance. The subjects were divided into two groups: the control group and the experimental group. The control group received a standard diet and water, while the experimental group received a diet supplemented with 0.5% of the test substance.



## LA CREME DE LA CREME

## Calling all Junior PAs

London, New York, Milan  
Exclusive retail  
£14,000

Hit the Air Waves!  
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£12,500

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American law firm  
£15,000

A Winning Team  
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Project management  
£12,500

Money! Money!  
International consultancy  
£14,000

Get Fit at Lunchtime!  
Multinational company  
£11,000

...unlimited careers

This is a small selection of the very many opportunities presently on offer. Our temporary team (London's longest established!) is recruiting now. If you have good secretarial skills, call us on 0171-432 5707 or fax us on 0171-432 7654. Gordon Yates records on the basis of merit and equal opportunity.

GORDON YATES

Recruitment Consultants

AT LAST! ATTENTION ALL TOP PA/SECRETARIES

...Glamorous Jobs with Involvement, Excitement, Responsibility...

FLAMBOYANT INTERIOR DESIGNER - Wants TOP PA/Secretary with excellent presentation and outgoing/friendly personality, capable of dealing with the rich and famous. Must be energetic, thrive on administration, be computer literate. Languages useful.

LONG WEEKENDS AHEAD! Two demanding, dynamic but fun Directors of highly successful Investment Company, wants PA/Secretary with high standards, charm and excellent attention to detail to help them run their Company. If you have initiative, can prioritise and cope in a crisis, weekends start at Friday lunchtime!

Skills: SH useful/60 typing. Salaries: to £20,000 + benefits. Please telephone: 0171 235 8427.

KNIGHTSBRIDGE SECRETARIES

PA/OFFICE MANAGER

We are an international management consultancy seeking an experienced PA/Office Manager to work for the MD in an interesting and challenging role. The Candidate must have excellent organisational skills, fast accurate typing, working knowledge of Italian and/or French, the ability to organise oneself and the administrative procedures in the office, and a confident approach when dealing with people at senior levels. This position would be demanding but challenging to the successful Candidate.

Salary up to £23,000 p.a. for the right person. Please send CV to Mrs Sarah Beaumont, HR Consulting Ltd, James House, 1 Balmores Street, St James's SW1Y 6HD or fax 0171 925 2636

Closing date 31st May.

Alliance Gas Ltd

Leading independent gas marketing company require permanent secretary for offices in Blacklairs.

Minimum 3 years general secretarial experience; knowledge of oil/gas sector advantageous but not essential.

Salary c£17,500 (depending on experience) plus excellent benefits.

To apply please send CV and covering letter to Steven Paterson, Human Resources Manager, Alliance Gas Ltd, London EC4V 4BY.

Closing date 31st May.

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

Bright secretary required for busy office. You will work for one of the partners and two negotiators. Good working knowledge of Word Perfect and Excel 5.1 needed.

The position offers the opportunity to learn new skills as one of the senior secretaries in this busy and expanding office.

Good interpersonal skills a must.

Salary £16,750 - £18,000 depending on experience.

Ring Farebrother (ref PW) 0171 405 4545

NO AGENCIES

£28,000 PA

Our client, a leading professional who is highly respected in his field, requires the best PA in London. Spending circa 50% of your time on your own, you will be responsible for the complete control of both his business and private life. This position will require someone who is a pro-active self-starter with first class secretarial skills (100/70). Being in the front-line, an impeccable presentation and manner are essential. Age 30-38.

DIRECTORS' SECRETARIES 0171 629 9323

Dynamic Catering Company - Marketing Secretary/P.A.

South London based private catering company requires efficient 25-35 year old person educated to A level standard, to work for senior event organiser. Shorthand preferable, WP 5.0 essential. c£16,000 p.a.

Handwritten applications with CV to - Mustard Catering, 1-3 Brixton Road, London SW9 6DE or Fax 0171 793 1024 or telephone

Fran in the first instance on 0171 582 9159, mornings only.

## TIMES GROUP

Summer has arrived & brought with it some of the best jobs this year. Below is just a small selection of the exciting opportunities we currently have available.

Shipping	Sec/Clerk	EC2	£12,000
Headlines	Team Sec	WC1	£12,000
Banking	Jar Sec	W1	£12,500
Personals	VDU/OP	W1	£13,000
Marketing	Team Sec	NW1	£13,500
Advertising	Co-Ordinator	WC2	£14,000
Health	Medical Sec	SW6	£14,300
Liaison	Support Sec	W6	£15,000
Management Consultancy	Receptionist	EC1	£15,000
Fashion	S/H Sec	NW1	£16,000
Hotel	PA Sec	W1	£20,000

\*All positions have excellent company benefits\*

These positions are working for some of London's premier companies and many are registered with us on an exclusive basis. If you want to progress your career, now is the time to call the Times Team.

Tel: 0171 831 8936

Fax: 0171 430 9111

TIME TO TEMP

To £10.00 ph plus Overtime

For stimulating, rewarding, highly paid assignments... whether you're available for the odd day, long term, temp to perm or a full time contract we currently have so many opportunities - perhaps just the one you've been waiting for! If you are 100% flexible and enthusiastic with good secretarial skills, we can offer you continuous work, top rates and a friendly, efficient service.

Call Rebecca Ashby at Cross Selection on: 0171 377 5500 or Fax: 0171 377 5509

CROSS SELECTION

SECRETARY £15-16,000 - SW1

Looking for a step up the ladder? If you've 2 yrs. secretarial experience and are looking to move upwards and upwards in a major company, you'll be interested in this role!

Supporting both the legal and exploration departments, you'll ideally know W&W and have the need to organise progress.

Contact Deborah Pearson or Marian Baker at Target Appointments on 0171 242 1183. Alternatively fax your c.v. on 0171 405 5542

Target APPOINTMENTS

PA/SECRETARY UP TO £17,000 HENDON, NW4

FED UP WITH COMMUTING?

We are a small, but highly successful property company seeking the services of a competent PA/Secretary. You must have excellent secretarial & organisational skills, excellent in W&W, spreadsheets and basic word processing and be keen to get part of the team. If you have a degree to boot, and your CV is W.K. Main

Princess House, 8 Hertford Road, London NW4 2DG

PERSONAL ASSISTANT

The Chairman of a small successful publishing financial institution is looking for a female P.A. Office administration, basic book-keeping, list management, research, ability to work alone, and in home office.

Word-processing skills essential. No agencies.

Contact Rose Eden, Tel: 0171 583 3006 or fax/fax to 20 Little Lane, London E24 8BZ; Fax: 0171 583 5012

RECEPTIONIST c.£15,000

We are a firm of Chartered Surveyors based in Mayfair looking for a vivacious and intelligent person to work with one other on our front-line reception desk.

You will have previous company reception (including a busy switchboard) experience, and have excellent presentation and interpersonal skills. Good organisational skills would be beneficial.

If you are interested in this exciting position, please send your CV in confidence to Fay Johnstone, Personnel Manager, Nelson Bakewell, Westland House, 176 Curzon Street, London W1Y 8LT.

No Agencies.

GROSVENOR RECEPTION

City Receptionist - £14,000 - small successful co. looking for a receptionist with typing (40+ wpm). Working alongside another receptionist, you will need to be organised with a good telephone manner.

Ref age: 25-35.

PR Receptionist - £13,000 - friendly financial PR co is looking for an experienced receptionist to join their young team. Short presentation and good telephone manner plus useful reception duties.

Part Time Receptionist - £8,000+ professional co based in St James is looking for 2 part-time receptionists to run their busy reception desk. Some typing useful. Mornings or afternoons 5 days a week. Prof age: 25-45

GROSVENOR BUREAU TEL: 0171 499 6566

RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

PA/ SECRETARY

Managing Director of a busy, private property and building company requires a confident, well organised secretary.

Must be able to work as part of the team and under pressure.

Please send CV, stating current salary, to:

Hammies Construction Ltd, Sandford House, 10 Maynard Close, Kings Road, London SW6 2DB.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

With knowledge of WordPerfect 5.1 and good typing speeds. The successful applicant needs an excellent speaking voice. Should be confident, enthusiastic, with common sense and a dry sense of humour. Small Mayfair office, which offers plenty of scope for someone who likes variety, and being part of a small team.

£15,000 dependent on experience. Call Elizabeth De la Rue on 0171 493 2224/2938, or Fax 0171 493 1144.

SECRETARY/ NEGOTIATOR

HYDE PARK ESTATE AGENTS W&W required £12k exp + 10% commission + perks. Circa £16,500 0171 258 3978

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

7 Albemarle Street, London W1X 4NB

American Centre of American university requires a mature, flexible person for secretarial/ clerical duties 4 days a week. Experience in an international environment highly desirable. Salary up to £12,500.

Further particulars from Mrs Sandra Berry, application forms with CV and names of 2 referees by Wednesday 31st May.

Please call ENGLAND on 0171 931 1711.

Where Next?

International Blue-Chip company will seek opportunity to enhance good & good secretarial & administrative skills with a person who is a self-starter, with a good knowledge of W&W, and a good understanding of the business. Please write with CV to Susan Flude, 63 Whitfield Street, London W1A 4AX.

SECRETARIES

Required at various levels at Major W1 Advertising and Graphic Design Agency. Bright, confident personality, self-motivated and a good organiser. Ability to use MS Word for Windows preferred. Please write with CV to Susan Flude, 63 Whitfield Street, London W1A 4AX.

PROJECT SECRETARY

Salary circa £15,000 per annum plus bonus scheme.

Full time position offered by CWA, a small yet well established and extremely busy city based consultancy practice. This is a vital post and requires a confident, highly motivated and industrious secretary with excellent organisational, interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to produce good work under pressure. Job specification also includes administration duties.

Knowledge of modern office technology essential. Age guide 20-35.

Please reply in writing, preferably by fax to:

Janet Pearce, CWA Consultants Ltd, Whippley House, 91 Whippley St, London EC2A 2BE

Tel No: 0171 245 6855

Fax No: 0171 235 8192

No agencies please

PA/ADMINISTRATOR EUSTON NW1

Christopher Place, Centre for children under 5 with hearing impairment and speech and language delay, has a vacancy for a secretary with excellent organisational administrative and WP skills to set up office systems and procedures and give complete support to the Director and team of professional staff.

Applicant must be 25+ educated to 'A' level standard, computer literate, with approx. 2 years experience in a commercial or educational environment with basic knowledge of personnel administration and book-keeping. This key position requires sensitive interpersonal skills.

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£21,000 Multi-national organisation based in Frankfurt. You will have a strong P.A. Secretarial background, good German and knowledge of English. Contact Victoria on 0181 570 9050 MFC PERSONNEL

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Investment Management Company based in Chelsea seeks personal assistant to deal with director's workload. Flawless secretarial (Word for Windows) and administrative skills required. Must be a good communicator. French and/or German useful though not essential. Write with full CV to: John Baker, Fund Advisors (UK) Ltd, 3, Chelsea Embankment, London SW3 4LE.

SALES SECRETARY IN PR £14,500

- do you enjoy the buzz and pace of a sales environment? We have an excellent opportunity working for a PR company in their sales department. You will be working for the Director and his team. You will be looking after all the admin and will get involved with presentations. This position requires someone who enjoys working under pressure, has good secretarial skills and spreadsheet experience. Please call SOPHIE WADE immediately.

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Please forward Curriculum Vitae and covering letter to: Lucy Williams, Board International (UK) Limited, 4th Floor, 62 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HZ.

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Interbrand is a Covent Garden-based marketing consultancy offering services in brand and corporate name development, brand strategy, corporate identity and package design and trade mark law. We are currently seeking an experienced Senior Executive Assistant/PA to support our Group Chairman and the Chairman, Europe. The role is a busy and varied one. As well as excellent typing, word processing (Apple Mac) and shorthand skills, the ideal candidate will have experience in office management and secretarial recruitment. Other vital personal qualities are good communication skills, initiative, flexibility and the ability to maintain a sense of humour at all times.

Please send your application, with a handwritten covering letter, to: Sue Ridley, Interbrand U.K. Ltd, 40 Long Acre, Covent Garden, London WC2E 6JT. No agencies please.

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BILINGUAL - French Secretary required for UK Commercial Co. of French multinational. Work from 9.30am to 5.30pm. Good secretarial skills, including report writing, word processing, and CV to The Personnel Administrator, 20/22 Wellington Street, London WC2E 7JQ. Tel: 0171 497 3312.

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BILINGUAL SEC 50% French Worked, audio in both, W&W 80 wpm. For a French Lawyer. City Firm. £16,000. Call and send CV to: 0171-984 6444 Fax: 0171-984 1355

BUCKS fluent Italian, German speakers required for service support organisation. Good telephone manner, sales skills, positive attitude. Tel: 0171-252 5252

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TONIGHT! Language Temps Open Evening 6.00pm - 8.00pm

Crone Corkill Multilingual invites you this evening to an informal chat, a glass of wine and entry into our Prize Draw where you could win a day at the Sanctuary! Come and discuss how we can help you ensure your summer is NOT spent sitting by the phone waiting for a booking. When you register on the team we can give you FREE cross-training on a wp or spreadsheet system of your choice. So if your typing and wp skills are good and you are fluent in at least one European language, come along and see how we can help. RSVP to Mikaela Baker, Laura Nathan, Joanna Denham, Address: Victory House, Swallow Street, London W1. 0171-434 4512

Crone Corkill Multilingual

Three weeks to go to Crème '95

The inaugural Crème '95 is fast-approaching and the number and variety of exhibitors is still growing. With only one week left to pre-book a place in the seminar of your choice, now is the time to pre-register for the show.

For those looking for new suppliers of office products and for anyone interested in the latest business technology, companies exhibiting quality products at Crème include, 3M, ESSE, Staedtler, Pilot Pen, Prodir, Jet Stationery, Letzt UK, Quo Vadis with planning diaries, Dr Gold UK, Cummins Allison with paper shredders, Comlex with filing equipment, Tolit and Harvey and Watson, and Crossland with office stationery and Binding and Presentation Supplies Ltd. Panasonic, Olivetti, IBM, Corporate Business Technology and Canon Information Systems will be among the companies demonstrating the latest and the best business technology, from fax machines and photocopiers to printers and information technology systems.

To aid with the successful purchasing of these products and other services required for the office, The Chartered Institute of Purchasing & Supply are running comprehensive seminars, specifically designed for secretaries, PAs and administrators. Advice on obtaining quotes, determining quality, the basics of negotiation and developing appropriate support systems will be given.

Crème '95

Entrance to the show is free and the seminars cost £5 per session. To guarantee a place in the seminars of your choice, please phone 0171-571 6802 to request an information pack and booking form. Alternatively, it is possible to register for



## Floor area not in permission

**Regina v Secretary of State for the Environment, Ex parte Slough Borough Council and Another**  
Before Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Lord Justice Morritt and Lord Justice Ward  
[Judgment May 19]

A developer who bought land from a local authority with the benefit of an outline planning permission granted on the basis of a specific area, but which area was not actually mentioned in the grant of planning permission, was not limited to that area and an increase in floor area by 45 per cent could not be said to be within the terms of the outline permission.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by Slough Borough Council against the decision by Mr Justice Schiemann on March 28, 1994 of an application for judicial review by the local authority of the decision of an inspector that the proposal in terms of floor area did not fall outside the terms of the outline planning permission and that the appeal should be heard on its merits with regard to local planning policies.

Mr Brian Ash, QC and Mr Paul Stinchcombe for the local authority; Mr Rabinder Singh for the secretary of state.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH, delivering the judgment of the court, said that the local authority invited the court to resolve an important, but controversial point of planning practice, namely, the extent to which it was permissible to have regard to the application in order to construe the scope of the planning permission which was granted.

The old petrol station site in Herish Street, Slough, was vested in the local authority. It was considered ripe for development but the local authority did not want to carry out any development itself and preferred to sell the land with the benefit of planning permission which was granted for a change of use, redevelopment and the erection of new buildings with a proposed additional floor space being 1,055 square metres.

The site was then sold to Mr Oury. He applied for planning permission making reference to the outline permission but stating that the proposed additional floor space to be created was 1,530 square metres. The local authority was not prepared to approve a development which increased the floor area by 45 per cent and Mr Oury appealed.

The secretary of state appointed an inspector who found, as a

preliminary issue, that the application was intended to be for approval of details, rather than a fresh application for full planning permission, and there was no challenge to that part of the decision.

It was therefore necessary for him to decide whether the proposal was outside the terms of the original planning permission because of the increased floor area. That did not call for any consideration of the merits of the proposal.

The inspector found that the floor area did not fall outside the terms of the original permission and the appeal should proceed to be determined on its merits.

The local authority moved to quash that decision and sought a declaration that Mr Oury's application was outside the terms of the outline permission. Mr Justice Schiemann had dismissed that application and the local authority now appealed.

In the present case the permission was clear, unambiguous and valid on its face and, apart from the reference number, there was no mention of the application. The general rule was that, in construing a planning permission, regard was to be had only to the permission itself.

In their Lordships' judgment, the application for the 1,530 square metre development was irrelevant to the real question which was whether the permission as granted was valid, having regard to the application which was limited to 1,055 square metres. It was possible when the decision was made that the development could properly be reduced.

In their Lordships' judgment, the general rule in *Miller-Mead* was well established. There were recognized exceptions to it: (i) where the planning permission incorporated by reference the application and the accompanying plans; (ii) where the permission was ambiguous on its face; (iii) where the validity of the planning permission was challenged on the ground of want of authority or mistake.

It followed that the judge had jurisdiction to make the order and the argument by Mr Stubbs seeking to interfere with the way in which the judge had exercised his discretion in favour of the standard basis was to be rejected.

Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Rose agreed.

Solicitors: Cameron Mackay Hewitt; Macdonald & Mackay.

Mr Ash submitted that their Lordships should not follow that case for two reasons:

The reasons appeared to be based on the proposition that the application was not available to be seen, whereas since 1988 it had to be included in the register and was therefore available to be seen by anyone interested.

Their Lordships did not accept that submission. It did not follow that simply because one of the reasons for the rule, even if it was the principal reason for the rule, no longer applied, the rule itself should be abrogated.

The rule was affirmed by the House of Lords in *Slough Estates Ltd v Slough Borough Council and Others* (No 2) [1991] AC 958 where there was no hint of reservation or disapproval of the *Miller-Mead* decision.

The planning authority tasked jurisdiction to grant permission for substantially more than had been applied for.

However, in their Lordships' judgment, it did not follow that an authority could challenge a decision which was issued in reliance on the rule. The rule was a rule of law, not a rule of evidence.

Their Lordships agreed with Mr Justice Schiemann that if the validity of the permission was to be challenged on the grounds that it substantially exceeded what was applied for, such challenge had to be made promptly, otherwise the permission was taken to be valid.

The time for challenge in the present case had long since passed. In their Lordships' judgment, the application for the 1,530 square metre development was irrelevant to the real question which was whether the permission as granted was valid, having regard to the application which was limited to 1,055 square metres. It was possible when the decision was made that the development could properly be reduced.

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**Regina v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, Ex parte P**  
Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Curtis  
[Judgment May 19]

Where a formal caution was administered in clear breach of Home Office guidelines, the Divisional Court could properly exercise its supervisory jurisdiction to review the legality of the caution.

To ensure that the guidelines were scrupulously followed and to provide a valuable record of what had happened, it would be advisable in the case of juveniles as a matter of routine for a tape recording to be made of the actual cautioning procedure.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an application for judicial review by P aged 12, by his mother and next friend, against a decision to prosecute him on September 5, 1994 at Forest Gate Police Station for theft. The caution was quashed and expunged from the police records.

Mr Richard Clayton for P; Mr James Lewis for the commissioner.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that guidance for cautioning came in Home Office Circular 61/94 containing "The Cautioning of Offenders" as amended and "National Standards for Cautioning (Revised)", especially paragraph 2 and the accompanying notes setting out the necessary preconditions before caution could be administered.

The starting point for the reviewability of a decision to caution where none of the preconditions was met and in particular no clear and reliable admission of the offence was made, was *R v DPP, Ex parte C* [1994] 1 WLR 1021. In that case, Lord Justice Watkins said: "A refusal to prosecute or even possibly to caution by the police is another matter. In that event the police may be vulnerable to judicial review, but only upon a basis which, the cases show, is rather severely circumscribed."

That decision was applied in *R v DPP, Ex parte C* [1994] 1 WLR 1021. In the context of a challenge to the DPP not to prosecute, one basis of a successful challenge was held to be because the DPP failed to act in accordance with his own settled policy.

In the present case Mr Clayton submitted that the court could properly intervene if a caution was administered in clear breach of the guidelines in the circular.

His Lordship would not say that the court would invariably intervene. It was a matter for the court in the exercise of its discretion. But a clear breach of the guidelines in the circular was a matter for the court to consider.

His Lordship added that Mr Lewis had raised the possibility, as a matter of routine in future, of tape recording the actual cautioning procedure followed in the case of juveniles.

His Lordship realised that such would involve the inspector who administered the caution leaving his room for the interview room where the recording equipment was available.

That was a small price to pay for the following advantages:

1 It would be a salutary means to ensure that a police inspector scrupulously followed the guidelines in the circular; and

2 It would provide a valuable record of what had taken place in the event that anyone thereafter desired to challenge the propriety of a decision taken in the course of the interview.

There was nothing in the judgment to offer encouragement to those cautioned to challenge the legality of their cautions. One would only rarely expect those who had been cautioned to succeed in showing that a decision was faulty for a clear breach of the guidelines. The present case was such an exception.

Mr Justice Curran agreed.

Solicitors: Wallace Bogan & Co, Bow; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

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Mr Justice Curran agreed.

Solicitors: Wallace Bogan & Co, Bow; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

## Remuneration of receivers

**Alliance & Leicester Building Society and Others v Edgestop Ltd and Others (No 2)**  
Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Rose  
[Judgment May 18]

The remuneration of receivers appointed by the High Court was to be assessed either by a master in the Chancery Division or by a taxing officer and the court had power by virtue of Order 30, rule 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, as amended in 1992, and Order 62, rules 12 and 13 in the case of assessment by a taxing officer to make an order for taxation on either the standard or the indemnity basis.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by Mr A. R. Starnway and Mr C. J. Barlow, receivers of Edgestop Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice Morritt in December 1993 ordering the remuneration to be paid to them by the plaintiffs, Alliance & Leicester Building Society and Mercantile Credit Co Ltd, to be assessed by a taxing officer on the standard basis.

Mr William Stubbs, QC, for the receivers; Mr Nicholas Patten, QC, for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE NOURSE said that the difficulty in the case arose from the amendment to Order 30, rule 3 made by the Rules of the Supreme Court (Amendment) Order 1992 (SI 1992 No 638 (L3)).

Before the amendment a receiver's remuneration was to be assessed in chambers by a master in the Chancery Division. The effect of the amendment was to give the court a choice between assessing it in that way and by a taxing officer. Rule 3(3) then provided that where it was assessed by a taxing officer, rules 12 and 13 in the case of assessment by a taxing officer to make an order for taxation on either the standard or the indemnity basis.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by Mr A. R. Starnway and Mr C. J. Barlow, receivers of Edgestop Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice Morritt in December 1993 ordering the remuneration to be paid to them by the plaintiffs, Alliance & Leicester Building Society and Mercantile Credit Co Ltd, to be assessed by a taxing officer on the standard basis.

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Before the amendment a receiver's remuneration was to be assessed in chambers by a master in the Chancery Division. The effect of the amendment was to give the court a choice between assessing it in that way and by a taxing officer. Rule 3(3) then provided that where it was assessed by a taxing officer, rules 12 and 13 in the case of assessment by a taxing officer to make an order for taxation on either the standard or the indemnity basis.

The Court of Appeal so held in reserved judgments dismissing an appeal by Mr A. R. Starnway and Mr C. J. Barlow, receivers of Edgestop Ltd, from the judgment of Mr Justice Morritt in December 1993 ordering the remuneration to be paid to them by the plaintiffs, Alliance & Leicester Building Society and Mercantile Credit Co Ltd, to be assessed by a taxing officer on the standard basis.

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**Regina v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, Ex parte P**  
Before Lord Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Curtis  
[Judgment May 19]

Where a formal caution was administered in clear breach of Home Office guidelines, the Divisional Court could properly exercise its supervisory jurisdiction to review the legality of the caution.

To ensure that the guidelines were scrupulously followed and to provide a valuable record of what had happened, it would be advisable in the case of juveniles as a matter of routine for a tape recording to be made of the actual cautioning procedure.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an application for judicial review by P aged 12, by his mother and next friend, against a decision to prosecute him on September 5, 1994 at Forest Gate Police Station for theft. The caution was quashed and expunged from the police records.

Mr Richard Clayton for P; Mr James Lewis for the commissioner.

LORD JUSTICE SIMON BROWN said that guidance for cautioning came in Home Office Circular 61/94 containing "The Cautioning of Offenders" as amended and "National Standards for Cautioning (Revised)", especially paragraph 2 and the accompanying notes setting out the necessary preconditions before caution could be administered.

The starting point for the reviewability of a decision to caution where none of the preconditions was met and in particular no clear and reliable admission of the offence was made, was *R v DPP, Ex parte C* [1994] 1 WLR 1021. In that case, Lord Justice Watkins said: "A refusal to prosecute or even possibly to caution by the police is another matter. In that event the police may be vulnerable to judicial review, but only upon a basis which, the cases show, is rather severely circumscribed."

That decision was applied in *R v DPP, Ex parte C* [1994] 1 WLR 1021. In the context of a challenge to the DPP not to prosecute, one basis of a successful challenge was held to be because the DPP failed to act in accordance with his own settled policy.

In the present case Mr Clayton submitted that the court could properly intervene if a caution was administered in clear breach of the guidelines in the circular.

His Lordship would not say that the court would invariably intervene. It was a matter for the court in the exercise of its discretion. But a clear breach of the guidelines in the circular was a matter for the court to consider.

His Lordship added that Mr Lewis had raised the possibility, as a matter of routine in future, of tape recording the actual cautioning procedure followed in the case of juveniles.

His Lordship realised that such would involve the inspector who administered the caution leaving his room for the interview room where the recording equipment was available.

That was a small price to pay for the following advantages:

1 It would be a salutary means to ensure that a police inspector scrupulously followed the guidelines in the circular; and

2 It would provide a valuable record of what had taken place in the event that anyone thereafter desired to challenge the propriety of a decision taken in the course of the interview.

There was nothing in the judgment to offer encouragement to those cautioned to challenge the legality of their cautions. One would only rarely expect those who had been cautioned to succeed in showing that a decision was faulty for a clear breach of the guidelines. The present case was such an exception.

Mr Justice Curran agreed.

Solicitors: Wallace Bogan & Co, Bow; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

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Perhaps the point is that nationality is less and less an inextricable part of what a person actually is. International sport feeds on simple national loyalties, but, in a changing and ever-more-fluid world, it is harder and harder to keep up the pretence.

**FROM DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT, IN DURBAN**

of Argentina's play  
around Federico  
Mendez, whose career did not  
receive the best of starts when  
he was sent off at Twickenham  
in 1990 for knocking out Paul  
McCord, the England lock.  
Mendez was then an 18-year-  
old prop; now, still only 22 and  
a regular correspondent with  
McCord, he plays hooker and  
is the main runner with the  
ball in the close exchanges,  
moulded in the mould of Sean  
Fitzpatrick, of New Zealand.

In training this week, much  
of Argentina's work has been  
devoted to back-row moves,  
such as the scrum half kicking  
the ball into Australia, and it will come as a  
surprise if they play the ball  
wide. Should they do so, they  
have a talented runner in



BY RAYMOND KENNEDY  
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

**Korchnoi wins**

Soviet International Grandmaster Viktor Korchnoi, 64, wrapped up the Madrid tournament to win first prize ahead of a field of international players. Korchnoi was old enough to be the father of seven of his rivals and the grandfather of the other two. His triumph as tempered in the last round when he lost to Judith Polgar, 18, but this did not affect his overall standing.

**NAL SCORES:** Korchnoi 8½; Selov 3½

36	Che7	64
37	H6	Oe5
38	Oe8+	K17
39	Ob7+	K18
40	Oe8+	K17
41	Oe7+	K18
42	Oc5	K17
43	Be3	O16
44	Oe7+	K16
45	Bc1	Oe5
46	Og1+	K17
47	Og5	Oxg5
48	Bxg5	C5
49	Kc1	O4
50	Ac3	C8
51	Kd2	K17
52	B3	Oxd3
53	Oxd3	K16
54	Bd3	Black resigns

ace of spades and subsequently contrived to lose five tricks: the king of clubs, two diamond ruffs and two heart tricks, to lose 500 points. As my partner might have made 3NT dou-

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 It is proposed to issue a new certificate to replace the described below that is stated to have been lost or destroyed. Any person possessing the missing certificate or claiming to be the owner of a property should at once notify The Durham District Land Registry of Station Road, Chester-le-Strée, Warrington, Mer. Durham DH1 5GJ.

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days before publication.

ace of spades and subsequently contrived to lose five tricks in the king of clubs, two diamonds, ruffs and two heart tricks, to lose 500 points. As my partner might have made 3NT Doubled, it did not make for a enjoyable scoring-up meeting with our partners. Making either Four Clubs Doubled, or 3NT Doubled, would have won the match for our team. □ The Generali European team championships will be played in Vilamoura, Portugal from June 17 to July 1. There is an open and a women's series. *The Times* will be publishing the results every day.

The European championship book, by Brian Senior and Mark Horton, will tell the story of the championship. It will be published on July 25. Normal price £8.00, available to *Times* readers at a pre-publication price of £6.50. Inquiries to 0115 94 22615, fax 0115 94 22359.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on Friday Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

**HOWARD**

**LITOTES**

- a. Understatement
- b. A type of paradox
- c. Verbosity

**SYLLEPSIS**

- a. A grammatical pun
- b. Part for the whole
- c. A rhetorical parenthesis

KO1 Nxe4  
Qxa3 Qxa4  
Qa2 b5  
Ne5 Bxe5  
dxe5 Nd5  
Rf4 Q-O-O  
g4 Qe7  
g5 hxg5  
Rf4 J6  
e6 gxf6  
h4 ex5  
hxe5 Kf8  
Rae1 Rxe8  
Qd1 Qd7  
Rg1 Rxe5  
Rxe5 Rxe5  
Bxe5 Qf6  
Bae5 Qf6  
Qa1 Rf8  
Rg8+ Kf8  
Qg1+ Kf8

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□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday

**By Raymond Keene**

هكذا من الاعمال















# RADIO CHOICE

## Hooked on a life of crime

Even then, though, the triumph was tarnished by melodrama when he announced midway through the season that he was leaving the team.

Germany's remarkable rise from the ashes of the Second World War back to recovery in just decade is described crisply in a documentary that takes us from the re-education in England of managers and bureaucrats to the laying by Adenauer of a wreath to an unknown American soldier in the American national cemetery at Wiesbaden just a few short years later. It was the Marshall Plan that provided the building blocks at a time when tag-ends were worth more than pennings. How the West Berliners were fed, clothed and watered during the Berlin airlift is described through eyewitness accounts by correspondents and survivors.

**By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT**

## TEAMS

which Raymond Illingworth's secondary role as team manager was open to public scrutiny and he sprang an immediate surprise by taking

Doubts were cast over Ambrose by Andy Roberts, his coach, before he had bowled a ball in anger on tour. Now that he has bowled many in obvious anger, most of them uncharacteristically misdirected, he has to start the internationals against a background of whispering (nobody would dare say it to his face) that his great days are gone. "He is aware he has not been howl-

**Illingworth dons tracksuit and joins Atherton and the England squad in their warm-up before net practice at Trent Bridge yesterday**

today and there is a chance that Ian Bishop, whose career has been cruelly hampered by injury, will be chosen as one of four fast bowlers.

Peter Martin and Alan Wells, their fringe selections, and, if one believes the weather forecast, the 999th one-day international will comfortably extend into a second day.

The Test and County Cricket Board is to review the structure of the domestic programme in the autumn, as part of a three-year appraisal.

## ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL CAREER RECORDS

England

Batting

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Average	100	50	Ct/s
M A Atherton	22	22	—	841	86	42.06	—	7	6
D G Cook	5	1	0	11	11	11.00	—	—	—
D G Gault	91	80	23	551	49	16.30	—	14	10
N H Fairbrother	44	42	9	1208	113	38.42	—	—	19
A R C Fraser	31	13	5	76	38*	5.50	—	—	1
D G Gough	4	1	0	19	19	19.00	—	—	—
G A Hick	44	44	4	1473	105*	39.81	1	12	25
R D Jones	4	3	1	45	19	15.00	—	—	—
A J Stewart	61	56	4	1567	103	30.13	1	10	47*
G P Thompson	10	10	0	222	89	22.00	—	—	5
S D Udal	7	5	3	30	11*	15.00	—	—	—

\* dropped out of play

West Indies

Batting

	M	I	NO	Runs	HS	Average	100	50	Ct/s
C J Adams	44	31	12	829	81	38.10	—	6	23
C E L Ambrose	111	58	28	380	39	22.26	—	—	31
K C L Atherton	44	31	12	829	81	38.10	—	6	23
G G B Banerjee	24	11	5	174	17	13.50	—	—	4
M K M Banerjee	81	50	12	276	31	17.23	—	—	4
I R Bishop	53	21	8	158	22	15.68	—	—	—
S L Campbell	7	7	0	95	38	13.44	—	—	—
R D Jones	6	2	0	42	12	12.25	—	—	—
C K Hooper	130	115	27	2890	113	39.86	—	2	18
L J Lumsden	3	3	0	3013	—	—	—	—	—
R R Murray	35	16	8	115	30	10.45	—	—	—
R B Richardson	203	198	27	5650	122	33.45	8	41	70
T Walsh	30	16	3	846	—	—	—	—	—
S C Williams	17	17	2	512	73	34.13	—	—	—

Bowling

	M	O	M	R	W	Average	Best	Sw	Econ
D G Cook	53	5	213	5	42.80	3.49	—	—	4.07
P A J DeFreitas	848	1	105	306	104	31.57	4.35	—	3.61
D G Gault	91	3	10	34	9	11.00	—	—	3.4
A R C Fraser	291.4	36	1082	36	30.54	3.22	—	—	3.80
D G Gough	60.4	7	227	12	18.91	5.44	—	—	3.74
D G Gough	60.4	7	227	12	18.91	5.44	—	—	3.74
S D Udal	53	5	213	5	42.80	3.49	—	—	4.07
S D Udal	68	4	243	8	30.37	2.37	—	—	3.57


□ Source: TCCBPA Cricket Record

□ Source: TCCBPA Cricket Record

## WORD-WATCHING

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## WATCHING



**RCI GOLD CROWN**  
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STUDIO SLEEPS 2	<del>£3,495</del>	<b>£1,100</b>
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3 BED SLEEPS 8	<del>£5,495</del>	<b>£2,650</b>

RCI BLUE BAND	WAS	NOW
STUDIO SLEEPS 2	<del>£2,750</del>	<b>£950</b>
1 BED SLEEPS 4	<del>£2,995</del>	<b>£1,100</b>
2 BED SLEEPS 6	<del>£4,750</del>	<b>£1,500</b>
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**WORD-WATCHING**

Answers from page 38

**HENDIADYS**  
 (c) The expressing of a compound notion by giving its two constituents as though they were independent and connecting them with a conjunction instead of subordinating one to the other, as "pour libations from bowls and gold" for "golden bowls, Sic "nice and warm", "try and do better", "grace and favour" = gracious favour.

**HYSTERON PROTERON**  
 (d) Putting the cart before the horse in speech, as in Dogberry's "Masters, it is proved already that you are little better than false knaves, and it will go near to be thought so shortly." A less crude example: "BA is running its airlines as a prosperous and viable industry."

**LITOTES**  
 (a) A particular form of meiosis or understatement for rhetorical effect, in which for the positive notion required is substituted its opposite with a negative. "I praise you not" has the effect of an emphatic I blame. "No mean city is *littles* for "We are the greatest."

**SYLLEPSIS**  
 (e) "Yoking" or using a single word punningly with two separate constructions: "Miss Bolo went home in a flood of tears and a Bath chair." "He lost his hat and his temper." To be distinguished from *zeugma*. "Kill the boys and the luggage." Syllepsis is grammatically correct, but requires a word to be understood in a different sense for each half of the yoke. Whereas, in *zeugma*, the word falls to give sense with one of its parts, and from it the appropriate word has to be supplied. You destroy or plunder luggage, but cannot kill it in the extreme acceptance of the word.

**SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE**

1... Qg2-e2; 2. Qg2-Rx2-3, Qxc3 bxc3 with an overwhelming material

[illegible]







[illegible]